

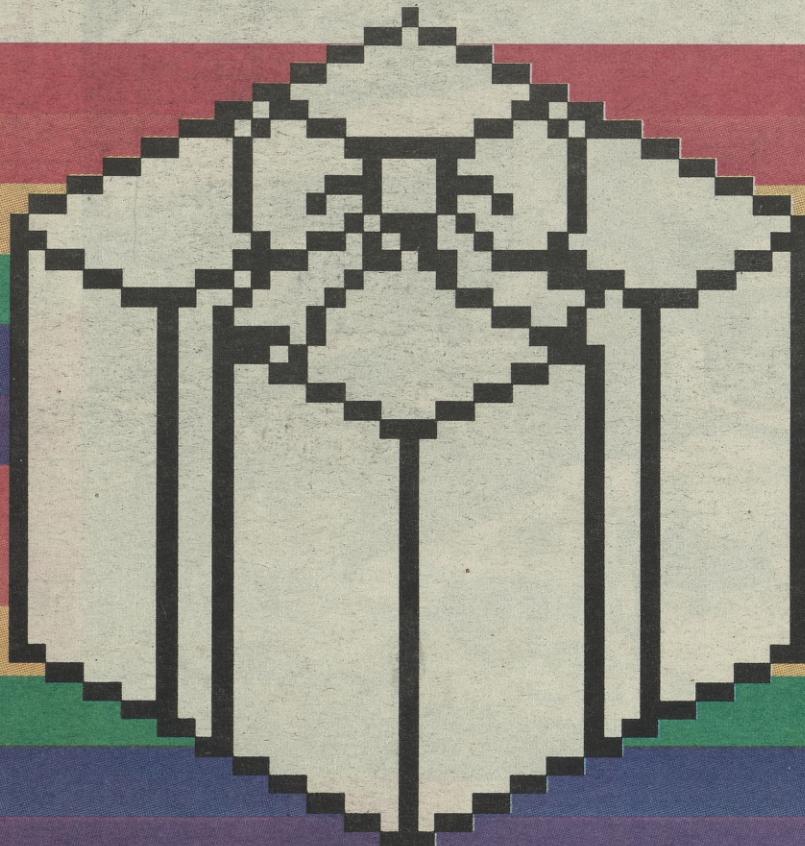
Newsmagazine for Northern California's Gay Community and Its Friends

mid-november
ninety-four

Issue

the latest

volume six
issue seven



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The ties of family and of country were never intended to circumscribe the soul.

—Thomas Jefferson

**LILY TOMLIN
ALSO INSIDE
INTERVIEW**

New AIDS Foundation Director introduces himself: Page 9 • San Francisco searches for violent men: Page 15 • Dirty Dreams benefit CARES: Page 24 • Madonna's Bedtime Stories are a hit: Page 26 • Exclusive interview with DISAPPEAR FEAR: Page 27

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Really I Must Say!

Money: Work It!

by Michael R. Gorman

The election season of 1994, with its barrage of negative and misleading attack ads, is not something many of us will want to revisit anytime soon. But it's never good to leave an experience, even the mud-wrestling pit of election '94, without taking away the lessons to be learned. One of the most glaring lessons of this election season is that in this culture, at this time, money buys power.

How else could a freshman representative with a do-nothing record and a Texas oil well's worth of scandals come within a hair's breadth of defeating one of the most successful first-term senators in the nation? Money.

How else could a good-old-boy preacher with a reputation for sexism, racism, homophobia and cultural paranoia hold a conference to which every major presidential hopeful in a major political party (even some cast as villainous by the good preach) come crawling for a blessing? Money.

How else could bills so heinous in their threats to civil liberties that they echo the pre-war legislation of Nazi Germany be up for serious consideration in states all over the map? Money.

When we look at the way money is so often used to circumvent the will of the people, to mislead the electorate, to serve the narrow interests of a few, to violate the rights of many, it would be easy to begin to view money itself as intrinsically evil. We would do so to our peril. Because a hammer can be used to smash your car window and facilitate the theft of your new CD player, you cannot reasonably assume that a hammer is a bad thing. It can also build a homeless shelter or a kid's tree house. It's the hand on the handle that makes the difference between destruction and construction.

Money is a tool. It can just as easily work for social justice and freedom as it can for bigotry. The sooner we begin to understand that reality, the sooner we will be able to successfully challenge the practiced bankrolling of the homophobic social conservatives.

Making our money work for our freedom does not have to be difficult. Although budgeting for donations to our national advocacy organizations is praiseworthy, many of us are struggling just to stretch our meager resources to cover the rent and food and an occasional movie. Those who have the liquid assets to do so should make groups like Lambda Legal Defense And Education Fund, The National Gay And Lesbian Task Force and The Lambda Community Center a part of the regular bills. Those for whom this is impossible need not be excluded, however.

If we are surviving at all in society, we are spending money on a regular basis. Where and how we spend that money is our prerogative. If we train ourselves to spend wisely, we can, with little effort, make that money do double duty: fill our immediate needs AND work for our rights and freedoms. Too many of our enemies have already learned this lesson and are acting on it. Here are some suggestions for counteracting their efforts:

1. Keep copies of the local gay press around the house so that when you decide to make a purchase or pay for a service you can go first to the advertisers who support us. Think of the gay press as a miniature yellow pages. Most of these businesses contribute regularly to community causes and charities, so indirectly, your money will be going to our charities and events, and you won't be spending anything you would not have spent already. And let those

continued on page 4

You're Right About NAMBLA

Dear Editor,

I just finished reading your article, "Even Liberals Must Have Limits," and I felt motivated to write to you, because you touched my heart. It's not the first time. I've read your articles with interest since you began writing them.

I also had the privilege of hearing you speak to my Social Psychology class at City College in spring of 1992. You spoke honestly about your experience as a gay man and answered questions from the class which you accepted written down anonymously. (I wrote that I understood, and thanked you for fighting the good fight.)

I'm currently completing a master's degree in marriage, family and child counseling at Sacramento State. I agree wholeheartedly with you concerning NAMBLA.

The victimization of children by adults must be stopped whenever and wherever it is encountered. You addressed this issue eloquently.

You, Mr. Michael R. Gorman, are a brave and a good man. Thank you for all of your hard work and determination.

Carolyn Conner

When you decide to make a purchase you can go first to the advertisers who support our community.

What About Teenage Boys?

Dear Editor,

Re: "Even Liberal Must Have Limits" by Michael R. Gorman:

Michael R. Gorman's editorial strongly argues that NAMBLA has no place within the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

It appears that his strong feelings stem mostly from his past memories of being an unwilling sexual victim of his mother's sexual advances.

Most people in this society would seem to agree that the idea of adults sexually preying on very young children against their wills as aberrant. However, what about those instances when pubescent boys with raging hormones willing seek out sexual partners that may be older than themselves? Has a moral crime been committed in those cases? Will these pubescent boys remain emotionally scarred for life, and will they all

grow up to see themselves as victims of sexual abuse? Just trying to understand in Sacramento.

Editor responds:

The fact that a young teen-

ager goes through developmental stages which include newborn sexual awareness does not mean that an adult has any more right to take advantage of that developmental vulnerability. All of the same issues apply.

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- ▼ H.E.A.L. Advisory Board (call for information)

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- ▼ Women's Coming Out Group 6:00PM
- ▼ CODA (co-dependents anonymous) 7:30PM

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- ▼ Café Lambda 8:00PM

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- ▼ Youth Social (24 & under) 8:00PM
- ▼ Traffic School 11/12 8AM- 4:30PM
- ▼ Homebuyer's Seminar; call Cynthia @ 334-4834

Sundays

- ▼ Sac Area Bisexual Network 2nd & 4th Sun 6:30PM
- ▼ Eagles Bike Club, call Roy at 442-0185 for info
- ▼ Gay Fathers 2nd Sun 6:30PM
- ▼ Twin Spirits 3rd Sun 3:00PM

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Laura Bowley

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COMMENTARY

continued from page 3

businesses know with a casual comment during your transactions that you are supporting them because they support the gay, lesbian, bisexual community. If you notice a business sponsoring a fundraiser or rally, be sure to acknowledge it. Knowing they are profiting from their support of the community adds motivation for business people to continue that support.

2. In Sacramento, pick up a copy of the Lesbian and Gay

Business Alliance phone directory (available at CompuSystems and at the latest Issue). In San Francisco, pick up the Lavender Pages. Find the Guerneville Gay and Lesbian Business Directory. Keep these by your phone. Give these merchants first chance for your consumer dollar. In your search for a good deal, factor in the benefits of supporting your brothers and sisters. During your purchase, congratulate them for their courage and openness. Words won't cost you a thing, and they may buy you a lot.

3. If there is a merchant who accepts your sexuality and values your business, explain that there are many loyal customers to be had by advertising in the gay press or alternate community newspapers that support civil rights.

4. If you are shopping at a business and notice some form of homophobia by employees or the business itself, take a moment to call for the manager and explain that as a customer you find homophobia offensive. (You need not even come out to do so.) If the manager takes no steps to rectify the situation, hand him your merchandise, explain that bigotry is bad business and walk out. (Being the radical that I am, if I am sure the manager will not correct the situation, I'll add a few things to my pile of merchandise to make the loss look greater.) You will have taught a graphic lesson and cost yourself only the time it takes to find a more accepting merchant. Never slink away silently in the face of anti-gay disrespect. There is real power in sensitizing straight business people in a society that spends a great deal of time at the mall.

5. Support the boycotts of products whose manufacturers have a history of using their money to support anti-gay legislation. (The Coors family and Carl Karcher of Carl's Jr. come to mind. Fortunately the products sometimes make the boycotting easy.) There are other brands you can buy which will not funnel your money into robbing you of your freedoms.

6. If you are making a financial transaction in which your sexuality could become an issue (renting an apartment, buying insurance, accessorizing your Halloween gown, choosing a therapist), ask up front what the provider's policy is. Ask to see written evidence of non-discrimination. If you do not feel adequately served or protected, let the person know your business is being lost for that reason. (While casually mentioning your recent inheritance?) If it happens enough times, the savvy business person will adjust policy.

7. If you notice that a straight owned business is carrying gay-positive products (movies, magazines, newspapers, greeting cards, whatever), take a minute to mention to employ-

ees that you are pleased and tend to patronize gay-positive businesses. If you are looking at a store for, say *The Advocate* or a video of "Torch Song Trilogy," and it is not available, take a minute on your way out to ask for it. (Sometimes I'll act very surprised and then ask the clerk if there is another similar store (ie: competitor) nearby that carries it. Sometimes, I must confess, I'll do this even if I already have the issue or the movie at home.)

8. If you are going roller skating or dancing or dining with your boyfriend, girlfriend (or both) or lover, call ahead for safety sake and ask if the management has any problem with your being together as a couple in their establishment. Can you skate the couple's skate without harassment? Can you reserve the candlelit corner booth? If the manager is hesitant or responds negatively, indicate that you will not be patronizing the business. (And neither will your fifty rich friends who were going to come along.)

9. If you are out of the closet, be so when you shop as well. Your presence and your dollars will be noticed, and most often you won't have to say or do anything extra.

10. If you are in a committed relationship an/or you have children, insist on your right to take advantage of couple's discounts and family discounts. (To save the kids the stress of a confrontation, you may want to do this before you arrive at the business with them. If the management tells you your family doesn't count, ask for the name and number of their legal representation. I've gotten some wonderful discounts this way, and seen some businesses change their policies.)

Teach yourself to think of your money as a tool, an instrument to be used. Your needs come first, but if you can satisfy those and also make your money work for the greater good, so much the better. Money has power, even in small amounts. It's your tool. Work it! (If you have any other suggestions on painless ways to make money work for our rights, send them to Michael R. Gorman, the latest Issue, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento, CA 95816. I'll include the good ones in a future column.)

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Around the Nation

Election Leaves Little Hope for Gay Agenda

by Stan Carlsen

As early as 4 o'clock in the afternoon on election day, commentators at CNN were describing polling results from the east coast as a "Republican wave."

It appeared that the tide may shift a little when it was announced at 5:40 that Oliver North had been sent down to defeat in Virginia's US Senate race. But that glimmer was swamped by a litany of tabulations from across the nation, as

The anti-gay initiatives in Oregon and Idaho were defeated.

TV reporters began referring to a GOP "tidal wave", and later, a "tsunami."

Left in the wake of Tuesday's vote were the hopes of lesbians and gay men around the nation who held expectations that the next Congress would be the one that actually considered a Gay Civil Rights Act.

Instead, and for the first time since 1954, Republicans will be

that will undoubtedly affect all our lives. The GOP won majorities in both the House of Representatives and the Senate.

All was not gloom and doom for progressive people, however. Besides the defeat of the North, the Christian Coalition, with its cultural war all but declared, also lost a high profile governor's race in South Carolina. It seemed that although conservatives were winning, extremists were not.

Among the most depressing results were the defeat of Ann Richards by George W. Bush in the Texas gubernatorial race and the loss of Mario Cuomo in New York. Our community has lost a friend in both those states.

Directly affecting the lives of gay people, were ballot initiative decisions being made in the states of Oregon and Idaho.

The Idaho Statesman newspaper of Boise reported that as of 8 a.m. Wednesday, Proposition One (an anti-gay initiative) was losing with 203,901 against and 200,181 for the homophobic measure. 98 percent of the precincts had reported, leaving

open the possibility that the results could turn around.

Kelly Walton, of the initiative-backing Idaho Citizens Alliance, vowed that if Proposition One did indeed fail, the ICA would be back next year with initiatives on both gay rights and school vouchers.

With 95 percent of the vote reporting, the Oregon statewide anti-gay Measure 13 was losing with 53 percent voting against

the proposition and 47 percent for it. If these numbers hold, it would appear that there has been a 3 percent gain in support for the Oregon Citizens Alliance over the 1992 Measure 9 election, where the no vote was 57 percent.

Several gays and lesbians running for the state House of Representatives were successful. Incumbent Democrats Gail Shibley and George Eighmey

handily won their races as expected. Republican Jerry Keene lost his bid, and GOP candidate Chuck Carpenter is in a race still too close to call. The Oregon House is currently in Republican control.

Lake County, in conservative south-central Oregon passed an anti-gay ballot measure with 58 percent of the vote. Grants Pass, also located in the conservative

continued on page 10

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National Newsbits

Israeli Professor Spread AIDS

Diaries of murdered Israeli professor Yeshayahu Demner indicate that he set out for revenge after learning he was HIV positive in 1993. He began advertising for sex and offered his partners money to forego the use of condoms. Among his victims may be two men from the U.S. Sixth Fleet and members of the United Nations forces in Lebanon. Given the frequency of his encounters, he may have infected as many as 500 people. Israeli gays worry about the impact of the revela-

tions on their struggle for civil rights. Police believe Demner was bludgeoned to death by someone he infected.

Breast Cancer Detection

During Breast Cancer Awareness Month in October, Zeneca Pharmaceuticals worked to promote on-site cancer screening by large companies. At its Wilmington, Delaware headquarters, Zeneca's screening program diagnosed eight women with early stage breast cancer. In addition to saving lives, Zeneca estimate

that it saved \$10,000 by doing the tests on-site and an additional \$250,000 in hospitalization and rehiring/retraining costs by obtaining early diagnosis.

School To Offer Gay Studies

Charles Nelson Williamson, a 1968 graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has left his alma mater \$170,000 to be used to establish and encourage gay and lesbian studies on campus. There are plans to fund courses in English, Psychology and History.

What's Out Doc?

The American Association of Physicians For Human Rights has come out of the closet. On National Coming Out Day, October 11, the group officially changed its name to the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. The group represents lesbian and gay doctors and medical students in the United States and Canada.

Schools And Respect

The Public Agenda Foundation in New York released re-

sults of a national survey on attitudes about public school reform. 61% of the adult Americans surveyed believed it is appropriate for the public schools to teach respect for people who are gay. Of the born-again Christians surveyed, only 13% would fire or reassign a teacher for being gay.

DMV Says AIDS is Dirty Word

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — At first, it seemed AIDS was a four-letter word to the state Department of Motor Vehicles.

A registered nurse who specializes in AIDS care wanted the new license plate on his 1994 black Thunderbird to reflect pride in his work and AIDS awareness, but the DMV deemed "AIDS RN" offensive and turned him down.

The agency reversed itself, on the condition that Steve Lee prove he's a registered nurse at a hospital.

The 24-year-old Lee and others were outraged by the DMV's initial reaction, saying it reinforces the AIDS stigma.

"What (DMV) is kind of saying is the way the general society wants to deal with AIDS — they don't want to deal with it," Lee said.

In a rejection letter Oct. 18, the DMV said it "may refuse any license plate configuration which carries connotations offensive to good taste and decency, or which may be misleading."

Christine Quigley, a unit manager at the agency, said several AIDS groups have told the DMV they don't want plates to bear the words "AIDS" and "HIV" because "it's just a reminder" for some people who may carry the virus.

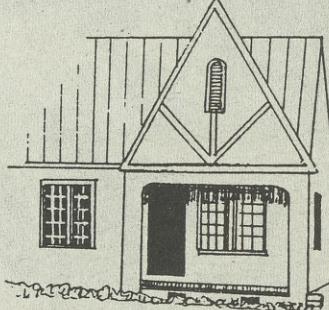
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Quote, Unquote

by Rex Wockner

"If you're watching this and you're still in the closet, you're lucky — because I don't understand how you can get cable in there."

-- Patrick Stewart (Jean-Luc Picard) on Comedy Central's "Out There II" Oct. 11.

♦♦♦♦

"It's over. There are lots of things on the horizon for me, but it's disappointing that my own country couldn't somehow find a way to support this project... I still lay the blame on the doorstep of PBS."

-- Author Armistead Maupin to the San Francisco Chronicle on the mixed plans to film "More Tales of the City" as a sequel to ratings-winner "Tales of the City." Maupin wrote six "Tales" books.

♦♦♦♦

"What would you think of people in South Africa, black people who passed for white in order to gain acceptance from a society that was systematically destroying and murdering those people under

apartheid? If they did that, they'd be called traitors; only we call it 'the closet' and somehow we seem to be understanding — and we shouldn't be."

-- Lesbian comic Robin Tyler to San Diego's *Gay & Lesbian Times*.

♦♦♦♦

"If you told me 10 years ago I'd be preaching the gospel of coming out, I'd tell you you were crazy."

-- 1984 Olympic gold medalist Bruce Hayes at a National Coming Out Day rally Oct. 11 at the University of California at Los Angeles.

♦♦♦♦

"I like them (penises). I just don't like them in me. I don't have a gaping hole. It doesn't mean I don't find them erotic. I am a very sexual person and I fantasize a lot and they are a part of it."

-- Comedian/actress/singer Sandra Bernhard to *Philadelphia Gay News*.

♦♦♦♦

"Predictable, boring and jumpy.

No surprises. I have hung around for many years with a lot of drag queens, and, honey, that movie just ain't it."

-- Bernhard on "The Adventures of Priscilla: Queen of the Desert."

♦♦♦♦

"Frankly, I don't think people care that I'm gay. People care about fair and honest elections."

-- California Secretary of State Tony Miller.

♦♦♦♦

"Gay activism bloomed late in Idaho. Boise's first gay-pride march was in 1990, and across much of rural Idaho, a gay or lesbian still has two basic lifestyle choices: in the closet or out of town."

-- Associated Press

♦♦♦♦

"I don't know really why I am gay, but I do know it's an inherent part of who I am. The most important political step that any gay man or lesbian can take is to come out of

the closet... It's been proven that it is easier to hate us and to fear us if you can't see us."

-- "Married With Children's" Amanda Bearse to Los Angeles' *Frontiers*.

♦♦♦♦

"The biggest challenge at this point for me is how to sustain this little world that I've had going now for eight years, how to keep the strip fresh, now that it's how I make my living and not something that I do purely for fun. I'm always struggling with it."

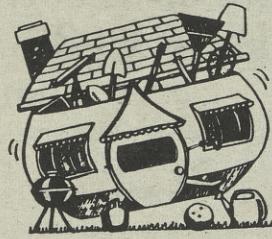
-- Alison Bechdel ("Dykes to Watch Out For") to San Diego's *Update*.

♦♦♦♦

"I have this sense of vision and awe and wonder at the world that I wouldn't have if I were living comfortably inside the system. It feels like a gift. It's a way of being alive and awake that most people just aren't."

-- Bechdel.

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Sacramento

An Exclusive Interview With the New Executive Director of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation

Mr. Goodwrench of AIDS Agencies Comes to River City

by Michael R. Gorman

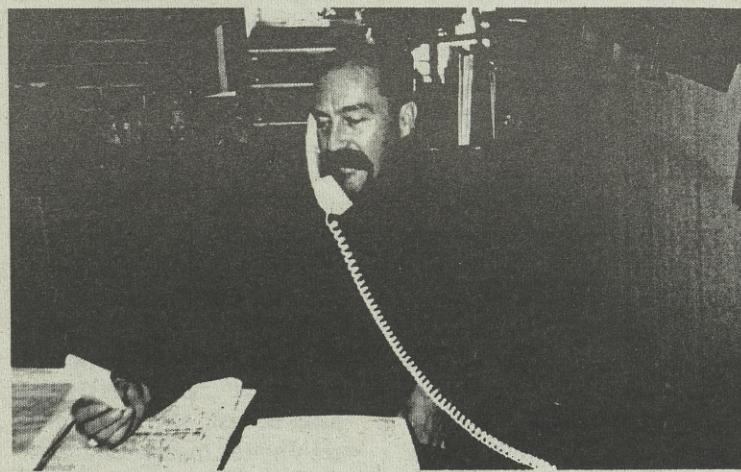
Few in the Sacramento AIDS community will deny that the Sacramento AIDS Foundation has been troubled in the past couple of years.

Questions and rumors about funding, service discrimination, unfair hiring practices and poor spending priorities have circulated in the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Interns and employees have spoken of overwork and burnout.

Disgruntled individuals have several times contacted *the latest ISSUE* asking for investigations into the organization, usually with only vague stories of dissatisfaction rather than substantial charges. Still, the lack of confidence in the foundation was becoming a serious threat to Sacramento's ongoing response to the epidemic.

Enter Keith Smith.

This September, the board of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation hired a new Executive Director for the agency. Keith B. Smith is a graduate of Oklahoma State University and the Indiana University Center of Philanthropy. In the past decade he has built an impressive resume of social activism, working with the National Organization For Women (lobbyist), the American Civil Liberties Union (National Board of Directors), Common Cause of Oklahoma (Executive Director), the Oklahoma Human Rights Commission (Fair Housing Au-



Keith Smith is working to improve the AIDS Foundation's services.

dit Coordinator), the AIDS Support Program in Oklahoma City (Executive Director) and the New Mexico AIDS Services Incorporated (Executive Director). He was twice the campaign manager for Oklahoma Representative, Rebecca Hamilton. One of his letters of recommendation is written by Randy Shilts.

Smith is credited for success-

fully lobbying the Oklahoma State Legislature to make AIDS education mandatory in that conservative state's public schools. He also helped strengthen Oklahoma's confidentiality laws. After his move to New Mexico, he helped increase the New Mexico State Legislature's funding for AIDS by \$600,000, and he resuscitated the faltering NMASI.

The new SAF director has gained a reputation as a trouble-shooter for ailing agencies. He intends to bring that talent to bear on the restructuring and revitalization of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

Arriving a tad early for the interview after reading Smith's impressive resume, this reporter was unsure what to expect. Shortly before the appointed time for my meeting with Smith, a slim, energetic, balding, mustachioed man suddenly came racing out of the Executive Director's office, trailing behind him a puppy-shaped foil balloon tied to the ribbon in his hand. He plunged down the stairs announcing to no one in particular, "She forgot her balloon!" The ice was broken.

(Later, when I began photographing Smith for the *ISSUE*, the receptionist, apparently comfortable with her new boss,

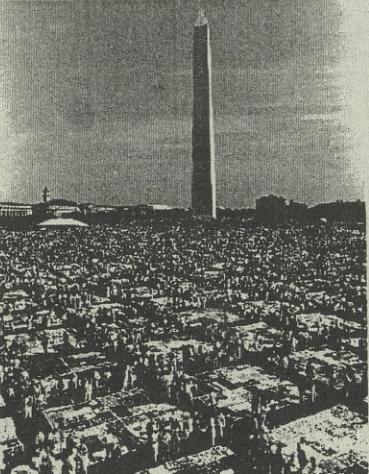
continued on page 28

Sacramento Adds Its Stitch to the Names Project

by Chris Narloch

Several local heroes have been quietly organizing for almost a year, and now it's official -- Sacramento has its own chapter of the Names Project, the group that started the AIDS memorial quilt.

About half a dozen members, under the leadership of Chapter President Michael Campbell, have been meeting once a month to get the River City group up and running. It will join 35 other chapters around the country in a project that has been going, and sewing strong since 1987 when the first chapter was created by Cleve Jones. The Quilt is a way to remember the



The Quilt was displayed in Washington D.C. in 1992.

names and accomplishments of the men and women lost to AIDS. Jones, a gay activist whose grandmother was a quilter, created the very first three-by-six foot panel to memorialize a friend.

Since 1987 volunteers have stitched over 28,000 panels internationally, and parts of the quilt have been displayed all over the world including a mass exhibition in 1992 in Washington, D.C. where thousands of panels were spread out on the Capitol mall to commemorate

national Coming Out Day.

"We got the idea for a local chapter in Sacramento after the display at the Convention Center in September of last year was so well received," James Ozanich told *the latest ISSUE*. "Close to 150 panels have been sewn locally so far." Ozanich is the Membership Coordinator for Names Project Sacramento. The local chapter has been busy raising funds and awareness for the quilt over the past several months, selling merchandise and displaying panels at the Rainbow Festival, the Lambda Freedom Fair and the Thursday Night Market. "We're soliciting donations of time, money and supplies, and we hope Sacramento will respond."

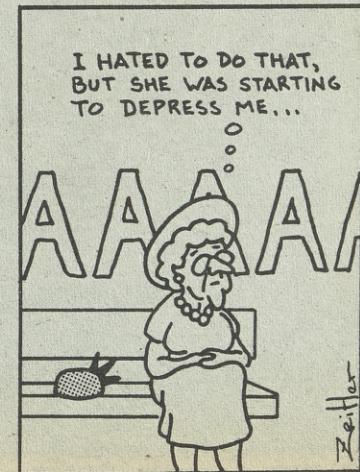
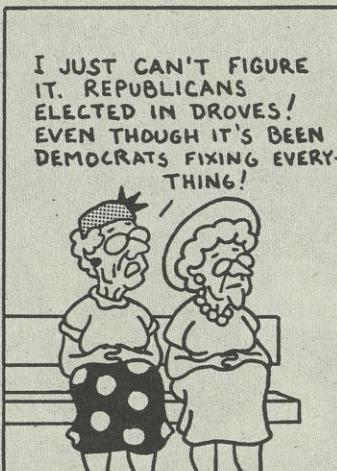
Names Project Sacramento has its sights set on a combination sewing room and display area for the quilt, along the lines of the San Francisco Chapter on Market Street near Castro. "Volunteers have been busy clearing out junk, cleaning and painting in preparation for a planned opening in early 1995," said Ozanich. The location will be inside the Pioneer Church,

on L Street across from Sutter's Fort.

A benefit reception for the

Sacramento Chapter is being hosted by Entourage (Sacramento)

continued on page 10



THE LATEST ISSUE 9

California Rocked to the Right in Republican Sweep

by Stan Carlsen

The Golden State became a much more conservative place on Nov. 8.

In a political bloodbath that not only wiped out Democratic control of the Assembly, but also destroyed any vestiges of moderation in the Republican caucus; conservative, anti-gay candidates won every elective statewide office except for the low-power offices of Lieutenant Governor, Controller, and state Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Caught up in a national repudiation of the Democratic party, California voters also passed the divisive and probably unconstitutional Proposition 187, which will make teachers into immigration agents and force health care workers to refuse service to aliens.

Also defeated was a plan to offer single-payer (Canadian-style) health care to all the state's residents. AIDS care-givers had stated before the election that this was the last great hope of PWAs on limited in-

comes or without health insurance.

Reactions from local gay leaders and activists ranged from anger and frustration to a recognition of the monumental task of developing any type of public policy that is gay-friendly.

First, the numbers. And, please pass the aspirin.

Kathleen Brown, who would have signed domestic partners legislation had she been in office, lost to Republican governor Pete Wilson by 1.2 million votes.

Acting Secretary of State Tony Miller, the first openly gay candidate for statewide office, was defeated by a campaign of homophobic fear-mongering in southern California by Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition. While we in the north watched what seemed to be a gentleman's campaign, Republican winner Bill Jones allowed the TVC to cut into Miller's support in the LA metroplex.

The result was an extremely close race, with Jones winning by less than 50,000 votes statewide: 3.393 million votes to 3.349 million.

Sacramento's Phil Angelides lost to Matt Fong by a half a million votes in a nasty race for

State Treasurer.

Attorney General Dan Lungren retained his seat after his Democratic challenger Tom Umberg accused him of being responsible for the death of Polly Klass. Disgusted voters gave the homophobic Lungren a two-million vote landslide victory.

Proving that money and special interests do buy elections, term-limited Senator Art Torres was defeated by Chuck Quackenbush for the post of Insurance Commissioner. Quackenbush was funded directly by the insurance companies he is supposed to regulate. The final spread was 400,000 votes.

In the state Assembly, where public policy is made, matters are far worse. Conservative Republicans, funded by the Allied Business PAC, ousted more moderate Republicans in primaries held in redistricted seats. In the general election, these primary winners cruised to victory. As of Nov. 9, the party split in the Assembly was 40 Republicans to 39 Democrats, with one election still up for grabs. This is shift of at least seven seats, giving conservatives effective control of that body.

In local races, right-wingers Doolittle, Alby, Knowles, Bowler and House all won by significant margins. Sacramento Democrat Phil Isenberg kept his seat in the Assembly, as did Congressman Robert Matsui in an easy win. Vic Fazio had to wait until 1:45 a.m. to find he had squeaked out a victory over radical right-to-lifer Tim LeFever in the 3rd Congressional District.

According to Marghe Covino, co-founder of Project Tocsin, an organization that keeps tabs on the activities of the religious Right, the national election results were easily predictable.

"I hate to say I told you so, but we warned people about the preparations that the Christian Coalition had for this election nationwide," says Covino. "They were going to lay the groundwork for a takeover in this election that will lead to their seizing the whole enchilada in 1996. It's going to be a bloodbath."

The dangers of a lack of fund-

ing are apparent. The combined annual income for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, along with the Human Rights Campaign Fund, P-FLAG, and the Lambda Legal Defense Fund is \$11.5 million annually. That's combined. It's also exactly \$4 million less than the annual income of Sacramento's Capital Christian Center.

Robert Rios, of the LIFE AIDS Lobby has been working for a progressive legislative agenda in the state Capitol for several years. He sees a very rough road ahead.

"The formation of progressive public policy is going to be very difficult," says Rios. "The challenge is to get anything at all."

Community activist Lou Camera blames a lot of the losses in California to an ineffective campaign to elect Kathleen Brown.

"The inability of Brown's staff to capitalize on the large negative numbers of Pete Wilson is

continued on page 15

QUILT

continued from page 9

mento Men's Chorus) and Tzedakah Publications with the participation of Barnes and Noble at their bookstore in the Arden Fair Mall on November 18 from 7 - 8:30 p.m. The event will include music by Entourage, hors d'oeuvres by Deborah Dinelli of A Taste Of Lucca and authors Tony Ferrante and Paulette Jacobson signing their book, "Letters From The

Closet."

Names Project Sacramento is also coordinating a major display at CSUS for World AIDS Day, December 1, and they expect to have over 200 panels on view there. The event will include a candlelight vigil by the Campfire Kids. "We're asking for local submissions of panels," James Ozanich told the latest ISSUE. "We have a vision that the men and women lost to AIDS in Sacramento should not be forgotten."

NATIONAL

continued from page 5

south, passed a similar measure, with 60 percent.

Lon Mabon of the OCA has already filed two petitions to get more anti-gay initiatives on the 1996 ballot.

There are precious few nuggets of hope to cling to after this Republican surge. Perhaps the results in Idaho and Oregon help to offset the landslide on the national level.

President Clinton, on Wednesday afternoon, took much of the blame for Democratic humiliation, saying that the voters were unhappy with the pace of change. He stated

that he did not feel that the electorate was repudiating him directly, but that the desire for change away from 'politics-as-usual' had not been satisfied in the two years that he has been in office.

The President did say that he wanted Republicans to "join me in the center of the national debate," adding that he would do "everything in my power to reach out in cooperation with Congress... to restore the people's faith."

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Davis Gay Fraternity Sparks Student Interest

by Jodi Schorb

UC Davis students swarmed to fraternity parties across campus to celebrate Halloween. Yet only one of these parties could boast a runway show and a crowd of hundreds of students diverse in age, race, and gender -- and predominantly gay.

"Davis Is Burning" was the theme of the Delta Lambda Phi fraternity's annual Halloween Costume Ball. The students brought much-appreciated camp to the cow pastures of Davis, as they paraded down a makeshift runway, competing for the coveted title, "Priscilla, Queen of the Agricultural Field."

The winner was Tonya Hardon, who took home the gold (sequined high-heel shoe) with

her unlaced skate routine. A pantsuit-clad, gun-toting trio of Charlie's Angels came in second.

To many, fraternity life and gay life seem incongruous. Indeed, it would be hard to imagine third place costume winners Flora Merriweather and Miss Government Cheese chugging beers and rushing a jock frat. Even a few years ago, few were ready for a gay fraternity at Davis. "When we first got

started, people were against it -- gay and straight," says Andrew White, president of the Davis chapter of Delta Lambda Phi. "That was over 4 years ago. Now people seem accepting." He points out that, as members of the Inter-Fraternity Council, their fraternity had to be voted in by all the (straight) fraternities on campus.

The Davis chapter is one of about 30 Delta Lambda Phi chapters nationwide, originally founded in 1987. As the fraternity enters its fifth year, they have 14 active members with a total of 30 alumni and associate members.

The fraternity is breaking stereotypes, and demonstrating that gay life and fraternity life are not incompatible. In fact, Delta Lambda Phi is strengthening the true meaning of "fraternity" -- a brotherhood which

offers its members support and friendship, while providing valuable community service. Members fundraise for the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, sponsor a coming-out group, participate in the campus Speaker's Bureau, and take part in campus events like Greek Week.

For those having difficulty coming out, "the fraternity provides a good support network. All the brothers have gone through the same things," explains White. "I was out to 4 people when I rushed, now I'm out to a lot more including parents, classmates, friends." Being in a gay frat also has its

social perks: "Our parties are wilder," says White, laughing.

Delta Lambda Phi has added force to a ever-growing gay presence in Davis. White feels fortunate to be here, noting, "a lot of people don't realize all of the things our campus has." Campus resources include the newly formed Rainbow Student Union, the Asian Pacific Sisterhood, Lesbian Gay Bisexual Resource Center, Women's Center, Chancellor's Committee, Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Student Group, LGB Alumni Association, and speakers bureau which visits dorms and classrooms. "Some campuses have none of these things," White adds.

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in a major 4-year study looking at the problems and challenges of living in the 1990's. The research study is being conducted by lesbian, gay and bisexual researchers at the UC Davis Northern California Community Research Group under the leadership of Dr. Gregory M. Herek.

The research study is funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and is the largest federally funded study of its kind. Sacramento is the target of the study because it is perceived to be more representative of 'average' lesbian, gay and bisexual life than are the experience of those living in New York or San Francisco.

During the next 6 months, an additional 2000 surveys will be distributed locally. The survey covers many different issues and takes about 20 minutes to complete. Participation is needed from a broad cross-section of individuals and organizations in the Sacramento community for this project to suc-

ceed. If you would be interested in filling out a survey or getting more information about the study, call toll-free: 1-800-UCD-STUDY (1-800-823-7883). All participation in the study is completely confidential.

Lambda Center Festivities

The Lambda Community Center will be holding its 3rd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Celebration on Saturday, Dec. 3 at 6 p.m. Join the Sacramento Men's and Women's Chorus for holiday carols and bring your two-and four-legged, significant others to take pictures with Santa Claus. Music, hot beverages and a great time are guaranteed. Last year nearly one hundred celebrants lined the streets in front of the center and sang along with the chorus as several hundred lights glowed in rainbow colors. This year we will be providing an interpreter for the deaf com-



The Sacramento Men's Chorus Dec. 10 & 11 event is "Steppin' Out" munity.

Also on December 3, the Center will host the grand opening of 1994's "Why Buy a Straight Christmas Tree?" lot. Last year the trees went fast, so call to reserve your tree now! All proceeds will help fund the many health related programs at the Center including the AIDS Response Program, Being Alive Living Room, HEAL, and Lambda Youth.

On Dec. 17 and 18 the Center will be transformed into an old-fashioned Victorian arts and crafts fair, with food, music and entertainment.

Cafe' Lambda will host a "Holiday Dinner with the Family" on Friday, Dec. 23. Turkey and duck will be served along with all the basic side dishes and live entertainment.

For more information about any of the Lambda Center's many programs, call (916) 442-0185.

Upcoming Men's Chorus Event

The Sacramento Men's Chorus begins its 10th anniversary season in a song and dance mode with "Steppin' On Out," a song and dance review to be held on Saturday and Sunday Dec. 10 & 11. The Sacramento Men's Chorus sets a new and livelier tone for the first of its 1994-95 Concert series. This concert will feature several production numbers involving dance and the Entourage group of the chorus, including a "Do It Yourself Nutcracker" sketch a la the Trokadero Ballet. Presentations will be at the McClatchy High Auditorium at 8 p.m. on the 10th with a matinee at 3 p.m. on the 11th. Tickets are \$8 advance and \$10 at the door and are available from the Gifted Gardener at 2122 J Street and The Beat at 1700 J Street.



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Rumor Has It

by Stephanie Carlisle

Well, if you couldn't tell the holiday season was upon us, our Lavender Heights Halloween weekend was surely enough to slap you back to reality.

Yes, what with the Lambda Center's frightfully delightful Haunted House, to the Closet Ball in Faces' tent, to the wild "Davis is Burning" party (which I attended as Barbara Butch), the events at October's end were enough to remind one and all that this is the season to be



The men of the Valley Knights Motorcycle Club did an incredible job in transforming the Lambda Center into a Haunted House.

Shoppers!

Now, before you start hitting all those mall sales, take some time to plan your budget around charity events in your own lesbian/gay community.

*Christmas trees will be going on sale at the Lambda Center parking lot on December 3rd, which will be the same day as the Center's Holiday Open House and annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Trees will be sold from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturdays from noon to 4 p.m.

*CGNIE, as usual, will be hosting several fundraisers for various causes throughout November and December. Two such events will take place on Sunday, November 20th. At 2 p.m. there will be a fundraising auction at the Mercantile Saloon, and at 6 p.m. Faces will hold a community Thanksgiving Dinner (doors open at 5). The Court requests that people bring bread, pies, and other assorted desserts.

*The Lambda Center will be hosting a Christmas Crafts Fair in December. Dates are tentatively set for the 17th and 18th. More details in next month's *ISSUE*.

*Keep your eyes and ears open for news about the monthly spaghetti feed at the Mercan-

tile, hosted by Duke Maggie and prepared by Bobbette. The November feed will occur on "some Monday Night Football evening," according to Maggie.

*This year's Santa Parade (November 26th) will feature a float put together by the Court. Volunteers are needed and can meet at a fundraiser at the Mirage on the 11th (8 p.m.) Emperor J.P. hopes to raise enough money to provide trees to Hope House, CARES, and the AIDS ward at UC Med Center.

new year. Also, Jo will be holding a Leather Night the third Saturday of each month. Get out those chaps and boots and head on out to Jo's on November 19.

*Congratulations and many years of happiness to Empress Racine and her betrothed, Kent. As of this writing, they are packing for a wedding trip to Hawaii -- Aloha! Speaking of

Hawaii, Fred Palmer of Capitol Quarterly is planning a gay and lesbian trip for May. Great price and accommodations... Big fun.

*A few more words about the Court... I bid a fond farewell to Mark Fleming who stepped down in protest over the dismissal of his partner Chuck Downing from the CGNIE Board of Directors. I know that

egos often clash in these kinds of organizations, but we should remember that we all have the same goal -- to raise money for the gay/lesbian community. Welcome also to new Board President, Leonard Harris.

*Before I go, one more word of advice for getting the most out of your holiday season... Shop Til You Drop! This means you, Katrina.

Join Us For the Lambda Center's Third Annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting

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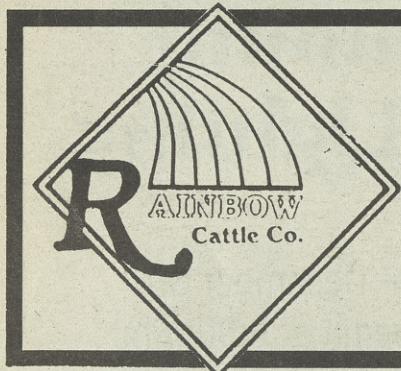
San Francisco Man Shot For Holding Hands

by Michael R. Gorman

On the Friday of Halloween weekend, Oct. 28, Victor Rohana and his boyfriend, Stephen Damron, left the Heartland Cafe on Market Street to walk to Damron's car on Waller Street. Being on the fringe of the Castro District, they attracted little attention holding hands as they walked.

As they turned at the intersection of Waller, Market and Octavia, a two-door, white

Suzuki Samurai with a silver or black soft top drove up with its radio blasting. Inside were two



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white men (possibly Latin or Italian according to police) in their twenties with long dark hair pulled back into ponytails. One of the men began taunting Rohana and Damron for holding hands.

Rohana turned to walk away when the driver of the Suzuki pulled around and began driving on the sidewalk. He pinned Rohana against a wall with the vehicle as Damron watched, unable to intervene. The vehicle's passenger pulled out a 9mm automatic weapon, aimed at Rohana and shot him in the chest.

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Rohana, an art student, survived the assault and is in stable but still critical condition. The Community United Against Violence and the Guardian Angels have issued wanted posters for the men who committed what police are investigating as a hate crime, a designation which carries heavier penalties than a non-bias related assault.

The investigation is being led by Special Investigator Sandra Bargioni who told *the latest ISSUE* that several leads were generated the first week after the crime and those are being pursued. There have been only a few leads since. In publicizing the crime, investigators hope to jog the memories of others who may have been victims of the same bashers. "We suspect these guys have been out there bashing gays in the past. It fits the profile. Hopefully others will remember and be able to give



A sketch of the attacker is posted all around the Castro.

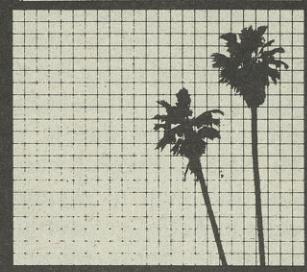
us some clues," explained Bargioni.

Bargioni has requested from DMV in Sacramento a list of all registered owners of Suzuki Samurais for the past five years in the 3 bay area counties. Her team is also sending the composite drawing of the gunman and a photo of the type of vehicle to all law enforcement agencies in the state.

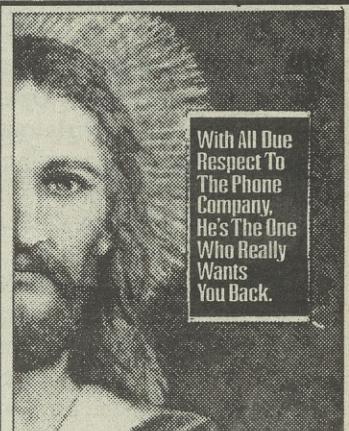
Asked her personal reaction to the crime, Bargioni told *the latest ISSUE*, "It's difficult because I have a son who is gay. I feel a real connection to this particular victim. I was at the hospital two hours ago, and I felt like apologizing that I can't make an arrest yet. He [Rohana] was so incredibly sweet and understanding. He knows it can

continued on page 15

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San Francisco

SHOOTING

continued from page 14

be a long process."

On Monday morning, Oct. 31, Mayor Jordan's office responded to the attempted murder of Victor Rohana by offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for the shooting. At a press conference, Jordan called the crime an "outrageous

hands with someone you care about is so outrageous, so inhumane, so spiteful, so shocking."

What the crime is not, according to Olmstead-Rose, is unusual. Last year, 366 anti-gay hate crimes were reported in San Francisco. Of those, 260 involved physical assault. Most hate crimes, experts believe, go unreported. A recent survey in San Francisco estimated that there are 6000 anti-gay incidents in the city each year.

A \$20,000 reward is being offered for information leading to the arrest of the gunman.

act that is totally unacceptable in San Francisco and anywhere in a civilized society." Later in the week, District Attorney Arlo Smith's office added another \$10,000 reward.

Lester Olmstead-Rose, Executive Director of the Community United Against Violence, told *the latest ISSUE* that the crime is getting a lot of attention because, "The situation was so innocuous and the crime was so blatantly hateful. It's hit a chord with a lot of people. The thought of nearly losing your life because you are holding

Olmstead-Rose explained that most anti-gay hate crimes happen in the gay neighborhoods, usually on the outskirts, the center of such neighborhoods being too much a threat to typically cowardly gay bashers. "When people are going out of their way to bash gays, they go to the fringes of the gay neighborhoods."

"There's no magic we can do to make these hate crimes stop happening," said Olmstead-Rose. "As gay people we grew up knowing intuitively that there is physical danger. That's

why many of us take so long to come out. But there are some precautions we can take. Carry a whistle. It scares the attacker and brings other people to the scene. Take a good self-defense course. Stay in a group in questionable neighborhoods. Don't get so inebriated that you lose a sense of your surroundings.

"Beyond that," he continued, "it's a long term project of changing people's attitudes. We have a speaker's bureau to teach people about us, to humanize us in their minds. It's a process of challenging churches involved in a debate about us, challenging the media when it portrays us in stereotypical ways, challenging politicians who use us as scapegoats. When that happens politically, like it has in Colorado and Oregon, the hate crimes increase. And there is a cost to not coming out. Being in the closet does not protect you, but being out allows you more freedom to face the risks and take action."

One media outlet in San Francisco has already taken heat for its response to the murder attempt. A news reporter with KRON-TV, Tia O'Brien, asked Mayor Jordan at his press conference if heterosexuals attending the Halloween events in the Castro should fear retaliation by gays and lesbians. O'Brien's question, and its implications

were widely condemned as homophobic by gay and lesbian leaders and city officials, including the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Supervisors Carole Migden and Susan Leal, and Mayor Jordan's office.

On Oct. 31, the Board of Su-

perisors, at the prompting of Migden and Leal, passed a resolution condemning the shooting of Rohana.

Gay supportive self-defense classes are offered at a discount through Community United Against Violence. Call (415) 777-5500.

Lavender Sweep Two



For the second time, San Francisco has experienced a "lavender sweep" with openly lesbian and gay candidates Carole Migden, Susan Leal and Tom Ammiano among the top four vote-getters in the election for the Board of Supervisors. Results in the Community College Board elections were not yet available at press time. Out candidates Leslie Katz and Lawrence Wong were in that race.

ELECTIONS

continued from page 10

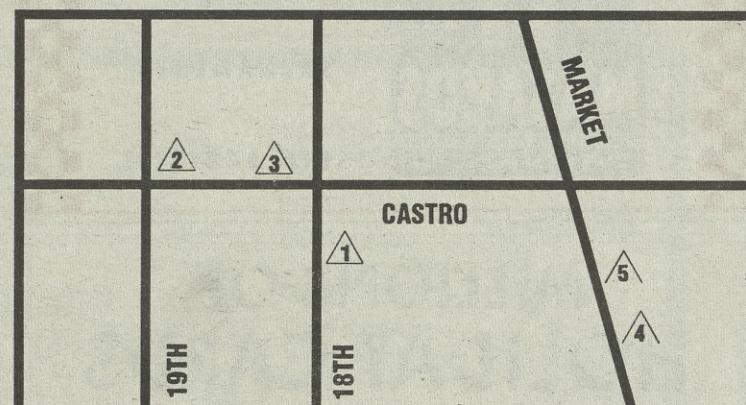
unconscionable," Camera says. "There is no way that she should have lost that election. And she pulled people down with her, including Tony Miller."

If there is one positive thing that these activists have in common, it's that they refuse to give up.

The coalition of the Right that has established itself in this election has two years to convince the nation and the state that its policy for governing is in America's best interest. Marghe Covino sees weaknesses that could be exploited, "but there is little time to do it. We need a commitment from the gay community. There are deep ideological differences among right-wingers," Covino continues, "and if these differences can be used to drive wedges between their groups and create disunity, then we can stop them from consolidating their power."

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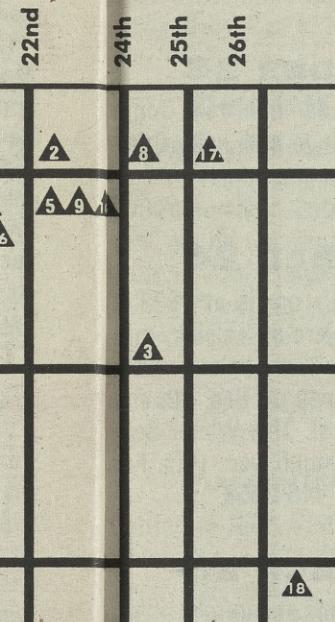


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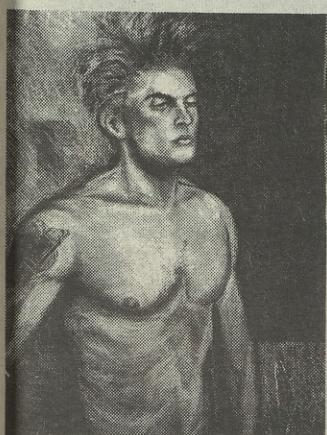
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Sacramento News



SACRAMENTO

NOVEMBER 11

The Lambda Players - Sacramento premiere of the OBIE Award Winning Play "The Baltimore Waltz." 8 p.m. at the Studio Theatre at Sierra 2 and continues every Friday and Saturday through Dec. 3. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door. For more info, call (916) 442-7752.

NOVEMBER 12

Garage Sale to benefit the Sacramento Men's Chorus, Capital City Squares and the Sacramento Women's Chorus. 22nd and J Streets near the Gifted Gardener. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Call Steve for more information (916) 444-5213.

Barbie On The Boulevard and more. Over 50 artists at Phantom Galleries will be taking a sharp, satirical whack at the image of Barbie (the doll). 8 p.m. - 11 p.m. 920 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento. For more info call (916) 925-6773.

Matrix Gallery and Workshop For Women Artists - 6 p.m. - 9 p.m. (free). 1725 I Street, Sacramento. For more info, call (916) 441-4818.

NOVEMBER 13

Lavender Underground presents Alix Dobkin in concert starting at 5 p.m. at 24th Street Theater, 2791 24th St., Sacramento. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door. For more info, call (916) 452-3005.

NOVEMBER 14

The Sacramento Lesbian and Gay Town Council meeting. Information will be shared with potential member organizations explaining the benefits and advantages of Town Council membership. 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Coloma Community Center, 46th and T Streets, Nevada Room

NOVEMBER 15

The Sacramento Chapter of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays will meet in the Fireside Room, St. Marks United Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way. Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

Greater Sacramento Area Couples - 7 p.m. game night. Bring a desert to share. Call Al/ Juan (916) 723-8644. Also, Thanksgiving dinner on Nov. 19th at 4 p.m.

NOVEMBER 16

Names Project, Sacramento Chapter meeting. 7 p.m. For more info, call James at (916) 925-4242.

Lesbian and Gay Business Alliance will meet at 7 p.m. at Carrows Restaurant, J &



The Lambda Players present "The Baltimore Waltz," Nov. 11 - Dec. 3.

28th. Stephen Remer will speak on "Current Investment Strategies". There is no charge to guests at their first meeting. For more info, call (916) 863-9733.

HIV Positive Emotional Support Group - meets in the Buehler Building at 2800 L Street across from Sutter General Hospital. from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Call (916) 446-3734. Also meets on Dec. 7th, & Dec. 21st.

NOVEMBER 17

Singer/songwriter Kelly Conway at Jammin' Jo's. \$2 cover. 8 - 10 p.m.

NOVEMBER 18

Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid - A Special Benefit for CARES. This is an award winning musical by Paul Katz and Henry Mach. Show will be playing at the Sierra II Theater on 24th Street, Sacramento. Tickets on sale at CARES and on the days of performance at the Sierra II Box Office. Tickets are \$15 for this performance which includes reception.

A benefit reception for the Sacramento Chapter of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt from 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Music by Entourage of the Sacramento Men's Chorus, & Hors d'oeuvres by Deborah Dinelli of A Taste Of Lucca: At Barnes & Noble Bookseller at the Arden Fair Mall.

SACWN - will present author, and lecturer Paulette Jacobson at 6:30 p.m. at the Red Lion Hotel, 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento. Paulette is the co-author of "Letters from the Closet." Tickets are \$10 for SACWN members and \$15 for non-members. For more info, call (916) 451-8034. Women over 21 only.

NOVEMBER 19

Leather Night at Jammin' Jo's. Get out your leather and come dance and sweat

with some of Sacramento's hottest women. The Garage Show" at 457-7888.

NOVEMBER 23

Thanksgiving Eve at Jammin' Jo's. Come dance and party with Jo and Julie. Drink specials, taco night.

NOVEMBER 26

The Studio Theatre - opens at 1028 Street with the premiere of "Falsies" running in repertory with "Christmas Conversation; Blingence," which will open on Dec. 8th and run through Dec. 31st. This Winter Season. Falsies runs through Dec. 16th. For more info, call (916) 446-2668.

NOVEMBER 28

49er's vs New Orleans at Jammin' Jo's. (916) 448-

DECEMBER 1

World AIDS Day - CARES, the NAMES Project Sacramento Chapter along with the Campfire Kids Association and California State University, (CSUS) are sponsoring the event which will offer a variety of activities and venues all centering around AIDS and the Family. CSUS has generously donated their campus for the event.

DECEMBER 2

"The Dating Game" at Jammin' Jo's. Call 457-7888 for more details.

DECEMBER 3

Lambda Community Center's 3rd annual Christmas tree lighting and celebration at 6 p.m. Join the Sacramento Men's and Women's Chorus for holiday carols. Hot dogs and beverages will be provided. Also, buy a tree, punchline and other holiday items at the Center. All proceeds will help fund the many health related programs at the Lambda Center.



Ron Johnson stars in "Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid." A benefit for CARES is planned for Nov. 18.

RUSSIAN

RIVER AND NORTH BAY

NOVEMBER 18

Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Parents "Give Thanks for Ice Cream", 7-9 p.m. Spectrum's ice cream social welcomes newcomers and children of all ages. Bring your favorite topping to Spectrum, 1000 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., San Anselmo, (415) 457-1115.

NOVEMBER 19

RAM Potluck & Social - 7-10 p.m., \$2. Socialize with more than 100 River Association of Men members at Guerneville Odd Fellows Hall. Open to all, (707) 632-5946.

NOVEMBER 26

Women's Winter Craft Faire - 11 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., \$2 - \$5 with portion to benefit YWCA Battered Women's Shelter. Entertainers, food and women's crafts. Faire is made up of women dedicated to promoting women's creative businesses. Sebastopol Community Ctr, 390 Morris St. Harmony Network, (707) 869-0989.

CHICO

NOVEMBER 19

Danny Williams - SF Cable Car Award "Entertainer of the Year" performing one-night only. His autobiographical show "Danny Williams, 1970". Stonewall Alliance Center, 820 West 7th Street, Chico. Call (916) 893-3336.

NOVEMBER 20

Holiday Feast Pot Luck! - Stonewall Alliance Center will provide the turkey. Bring a dish. Everyone is welcome. 3 p.m. until ?. Call (916) 893-3336.

NOVEMBER 29

Sensuality * Sexuality * Spirituality - A workshop designed to expand consciousness, increase harmony, nurture personal growth. Individuals & couples welcome. Free workshop facilitator Melody B'anah, MA. 6 p.m. at the Stonewall Alliance Center.

Free Advertising

Just send your organization's event info to: the latest ISSUE, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento 95816. It's that easy.



John Epperson is Lypsinka at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint in San Francisco.

victorian christmas in Nevada City. Call Al/ Juan (916) 723-8644. On Saturday Dec. 10th at 7 p.m. holiday party, gift exchange and elections.

Serving macaroni and cheese and hot dogs. \$2.

DECEMBER 14

Names Project - Sacramento Chapter General Meeting. 7 p.m., Call James at (916) 925-4242.

DECEMBER 17 & 18

The Lambda Community Center - will be transformed into an old fashioned Victorian arts and crafts fair, with food, music and entertainment. Local artists and musicians.

DECEMBER 23

Cafe' Lambda - will host a "Holiday Dinner with the Family". Turkey and duck will be served along with all the basic side dishes and live entertainment. Check future ads for times.

DECEMBER 4

The Garden Variety, Lesbian Variety Show" at Jammin' Jo's, 9 p.m. \$6 - \$10 sliding scale. Call 457-7888 for more details.

DECEMBER 5

California AIDS Walk '95" - Volunteers meeting, 6 p.m. SAF, 2nd Floor, 920 - 20th Street, Sacramento. For more info call (916) 448-2437.

DECEMBER 7

Greater Sacramento Area Couples - 6 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO & BAY AREA

NOVEMBER 11

Scott O'Hara - Portraits, Nudes, and Hard Dick Imagery, a group exhibition of photographs, drawings, and paintings, will premiere in photographer Mark I. Chester's studio in San Francisco from November 1th to December 11th. 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at 1229 Folsom St. San Francisco. For more info call (415) 621-6294.

Men's and Amy Boyd Stand-up comic will take the stage. Hottest as opener at the San Francisco buy a tree punchline through the 13th. Call Punchline Center. All (415) 397-7573 for show times and info. Amy health she will be performing with Dr. Gonzo. Center.

NOVEMBER 12

San Francisco FrontRunners - Stow Lake Boat House in Golden Gate Park. 9 a.m. No brunch follows. Call John at (415) 664-6704. Fun Runs happen on each Saturday.

Red Jordan & Friends - erotic readings, 8-1 p.m., Whiptail Lizard Lounge.

Dock of the Bay - dance for women, produced by BACW, 8:30 p.m. - 1 a.m., Olive Oil's, Pier 50. \$10 advance, \$15 at door. (415) 495-5393.

San Francisco Hiking Club - San Francisco Cable Car and Coit Tower walk. Meet at 10 a.m. at the S.F. Visitor and Information CARES Center on Market and Powell Streets. For more info call Larry at (415) 826-3489.

NOVEMBER 15

Amy Boyd will appear at Josie's Cabaret joining comics Karla Carmony, Sabrina Matthews and Matina Bevis in a benefit for the "Whiptail Lizard Lounge". Call Josie's at (415) 861-7933 for more info.

NOVEMBER 17

Faster Pussycat! Club features Team Dresch from Seattle and Cheese Cake from Boston performing live, DJ Downtown Donna and SF Ukele superstars, Pineapple Princess. Advance tickets \$5 at Different Light. Clubline: (415) 561-9771.

NOVEMBER 20

Parade Committee general membership meeting. Plan the 1995 L/G Freedom Day Parade. Meeting open to all. 5 p.m., 205 13th St (at mission), Ste. 3200. (415) 864-FREE.

NOVEMBER 23

John Epperson is Lypsinka in "Lypsinka! As I Lay Lip-Synching." 8 p.m. \$15 at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint (415) 861-7933.

NOVEMBER 26

San Francisco Hiking Club - Fall Foilage Walk through Kentfield, Ross, and San Anselmo. 6.5 miles Meet at 9:45 a.m. at the Safeway sign, Church and Market Streets. For details call Larry (415) 826-3489.

The AIDS File

by Bruce Mirken

HIV Prevention Programs Work

Despite recent gloomy reports about the supposed failure of programs designed to prevent the spread of HIV, a University of California at San Francisco report published in the October issue of the journal AIDS says such programs do change behavior and reduce new HIV infections.

Researchers Kyung-Hee Choi and Thomas J. Coates examined 77 separate studies of HIV prevention programs that targeted a wide variety of populations and found the data generally encouraging. The most successful efforts, they wrote, were those that were sustained over an extended period of time,

and in which the materials needed for safe behavior (condoms, clean needles, etc.) were easily available to the participants. They also note that programs aimed at adolescents worked best when they were started early, before the young people became sexually active.

Cure-of-the-Week:

The latest fad "cure of the week," recently the subject of intense interest in California, is something called the Kombucha Tea Mushroom. As with many supposed miracle cures, Kombucha's promoters report tales of amazing recoveries allegedly from satisfied customers, but treatment experts at AIDS Project Los Angeles and Project Inform are skeptical. They point out that there is no solid data on the substance and

some reason to worry that the product can easily become contaminated with dangerous microorganisms. Caution is advisable until more is known, they warn.

Drug News:

A couple of years ago a German study indicated that cimetidine (brand name

levels of patients given cimetidine when compared to those on a placebo.

On a brighter note, Liposome Technologies has applied for FDA approval of its KS drug, DOX-SL. This "stealth" chemotherapy agent -- a chemically modified version of doxorubicin, a drug that's been in use for years -- seems to have

323-9011 for more information.

Meanwhile, Upjohn is studying its antiviral Delavirdine (u-90152) for treatment of AIDS dementia. The number for information on study sites, entry requirements, etc., is (800) 432-4702.

Valuable Info Available:

For those with bacterial infections that don't respond to standard antibiotics, doctors can call the FDA for information on experimental treatments. The numbers are (301) 443-4320 or (202) 857-8400 (after hours).

When a person is taking a number of medicines together, the drugs can often have a major impact on each other's effects. Project Inform has compiled a detailed fact sheet on drug interactions that can occur in HIV/AIDS treatment. For a free copy, call the Project Inform hotline at (800) 822-7422.

The company has a program to provide the drug to those who have been unable to continue on standard chemotherapy...

Tagamet, a drug commonly used to treat stomach ulcers) increased CD4 counts in people with AIDS. Unfortunately, the recently released results of a follow-up trial undertaken by the Community Research Initiative of New England showed no boost in the CD4 or CD8

considerable effectiveness with much milder side effects than conventional chemotherapy. While approval is pending, the company has a program to provide the drug to those who have been unable to continue on standard chemotherapy due to the toxicities. Doctors can call (415)

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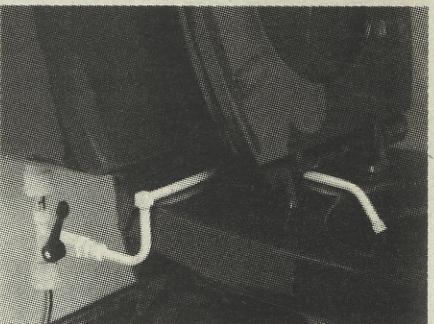
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Feature

Their Lives So Far with Edith Ann -

An Evening With Lily Tomlin and Jane Wagner

by Tanya Dewhurst

Despite no props nor costume, when Lily Tomlin walks out on stage and adopts that tongue-lolling expression of childhood wisdom and intones in that nasally juvescent vernacular, the audience does not see or hear Lily Tomlin.

Instead they recognize Edith Ann, the permanently aged sixty-year-old whose sandbox aphorisms delighted "Laugh In" viewers throughout the seventies.

Now, twenty years later, Edith Ann's philosophies are back, bound and untagged in her very own book, "Edith Ann: My Life So Far as told to Jane Wagner." To launch the book and kick-off a seven-city book tour, Tomlin once again donned her Edith Ann persona, and together with Edith Ann's chronicler (and Tomlin's long-time partner and collaborator), Jane Wagner shared Edith Ann insights with New York's 92nd Street Theater crowd.

From the small town of Edgeville, USA, Edith Ann contemplates the world and its denizens including her family, the local skinheads, gays, and "senior citizens who like to power walk, like Mrs. Milfred."

Gay life makes an occasional appearance including an anecdote about Edith Ann's "dipstick dyke" art teacher, Ms. Taylor appearing on TV, and a letter to Richard Simmons asking him to help Edith Ann's fat friend and urging him to get back with Howard. "I know you love his kids and life is too short," she says.

Edith Ann's short life so far certainly grapples with the grim realities of urban life -- and death -- in these troubled times from the alcoholism of her father and Uncle Claude to teenage runaways (especially her sister Irene) to the education cutbacks besetting her school resulting in the loss of Ms. Taylor. "I might as well face it, I doubt I'll ever lay eyes on Ms. Taylor again," Edith Ann laments. "Unless, of course, she has another lapse in judgement and shows up on Geraldo again defending

gay rights to a bunch of skinheads."

The book's author and illustrator, Jane Wagner, whose television work has earned her four Emmys and Broadway hit "The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe" won a Tony Award and became a best selling book, began her collaboration with Tomlin way back in the "Laugh In" days. "The first

Will Edith Ann ever grow up and come out?

time we ever worked together was with Edith more than twenty years ago," explains Tomlin. "I was not very happy with the depth of Edith and I was developing the character, doing Laugh In, you know. I was not a writer by any means and I yearned for material -- I had to come up with whatever I could take off the writing staff. I saw the teleplay "J.T." which was the first play Jane had written subsequently won a Peabody for. She actually came to New York to be a song writer. Well, we kind of took it from there and, well it was a blessed moment for me to have connected with Jane."

Edith Ann is the sum of two halves. Firstly, there is Wagner's insatiable quest for the perfect reworking. "Until last night when we got on the red-eye to come here," says Tomlin with a mischievous glint, "Jane was still determined she was going to rewrite the book for the second printing. By 8:30 she decided to give it all up, that's the editor's job." Lily

looks at Jane: "But one of the most wonderful things about you is how -- don't know this -- when you're writing or drawing or making art you hum." Tomlin demonstrates and scribbles on an imaginary pad and busily hums to herself. "As soon as I say are you finished, that's great, she sits down and I see her going hm hm hm. I said look you're writing the second book."

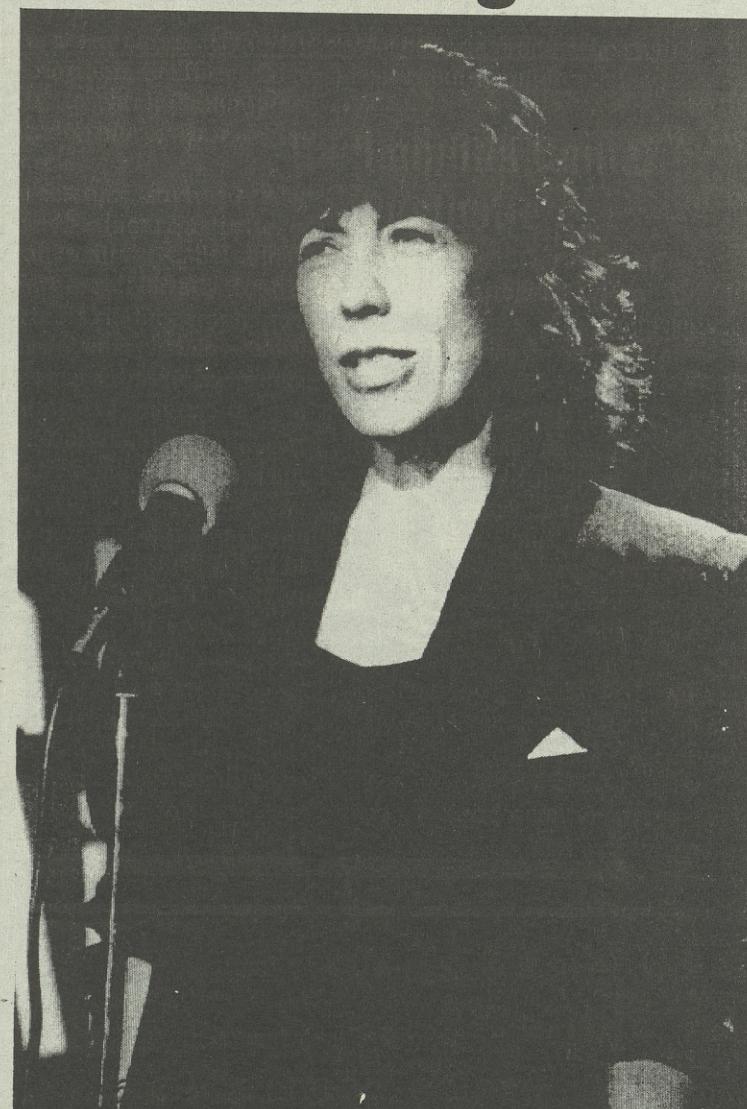
The second half that allows Edith Ann to bloom is Tomlin's indomitable desire to drive everything forward. "I was at the dentist's being treated in the chair," says Tomlin, "and to distract me while he gave me a needle he said how's Edith Ann coming, and I said good, and then he said I hear you're doing all the drawings yourself...and then I said, no, no I don't draw that well."

Tomlin, a self-effacing control freak of the nicest kind, was not only determined to star, draw and direct the animation specials, but cast the parts as well. With simple hilarity she recalls the story of tracking down the perfect player for Dr. Lopez: "We got to the point where we couldn't find a psychologist because everyone who read for it would be condescending to Edith. They really needed to be confronting with her and make her just come up to it. The production house who did the animation got kind of fed up with us, we had all these different people in. I heard Eartha Kitt was doing a German TV show and I even called her up in France and made her read over the phone with me. For hours. When I saw her I said oh my god, she's probably furious with me, I never called her back or anything.

"You can't believe how many people I had on the phone. I was calling everybody, going' I've got to find this psychologist. I mean does the word Meryl mean anything to you?"

"Because studio time to audition is so expensive I even had a mic set-up in our living room. Everyone who came over I'd say sit down, I want you to read for the psychologist."

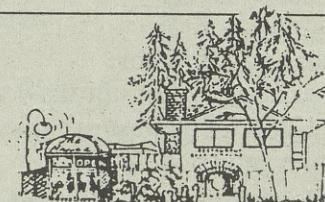
This energy and collaboration of course transmutes into the creation of wonderful char-



Lily Tomlin's new book "Edith Ann: My Life So Far as told to Jane Wagner" was recently released and shares her life and times.

acters like Edith Ann. Wagner gives her the words, Tomlin the personality. Together they propel her future. Will Edith Ann ever grow up and come out? Tomlin looks at me with a wry smile, "Edith Ann? Well, she was talking before about sit-

ting on the drain in the bathtub while the water went down and she found that an interesting experience. So it's quite probable she'll be open, sexually." c1994 Gaywire...syndicate, All rights reserved.



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Replace Thanksgiving with Thank God I'm Gay Day

by Sister Dana Van Inquity

Thanksgiving will soon be here, which can only mean one of three expected events is about to occur.

Either we gay people are 1) eagerly anticipating a lovely, warm holiday gathering with our family (be that an extended, non-nuclear, nontraditional family or a liberal and very accepting biological family); 2) fearfully foreseeing a lowly, cold holiday inquisition with parents and cousins and aunts who will ruthlessly drill us until we admit we're homo and then ac-

use us of deliberately killing off the family tree; or 3) depressedly settling for a lonely, frozen holiday TV dinner for one, (probably Swanson's Hungry Man turkey entree complete with reconstituted mashed potatoes and cranberry sauce boasting a shelf-life into the next century) while watching that insipid Macy's balloon parade on TV along with a gazillion holiday specials depicting happy couples with their happy family, ice-skating and later sitting

by the fireplace drinking cider.

If you are anything like most of my circle of friends, options 2 and 3 are the only ones open to you. But fear not, fellow faggots, dear dykes, blessed bisexuals and trusted transgenders (have I left any sexual minorities out, gawd forbid?!).

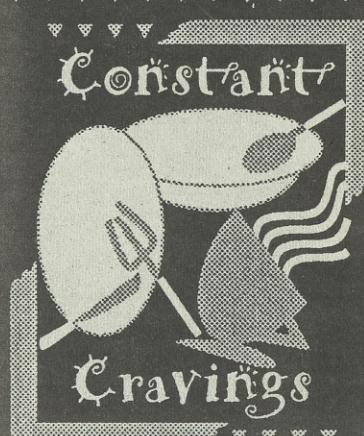
Sister Dana has developed his own holiday tradition (Hallmark Cards be damned!) called Thanksgaying, whereby he thanks God (who you may substitute a goddess, godette, higher power, cosmic zippitydoodah, oh, whatever... okaaay!?) for gays. Thank God I'm Gay. T.G.I.G. Actually to be a tad more truthful, Sr. Dana thanks God for queers, T.G.I.Q., because he is sick and tired of having to politically-correctly write in his journalistic endeavors the awesomely and superfluously lengthy yet all-inclusive phrase "lesbian/gay/bi-sexual/transgender/nongay but accepting of l/g/b/t people." Anyway, it has become my tradition around latter November to be extremely thankful that I was born gay, and that while scientists may belittle my undersized homo hypothalamus, they concede my gay brain is bigger than the average breeder's.

Since I am, if nothing else, a holy nun, I celebrate this litter liturgical ceremony with my queer peers repeating the

phrase, "Thank God I'm Gay." (Actually we say "queer" but you can insert your own word, just as long as you are thankful about it, because those days of wishing for a different sexual orientation are OVER, honey. Whether we were BORN that way or ENVIRONMENTALLY DIRECTED that way or GOD MADE A MISTAKE and we're that way -- WE ARE THAT WAY and we'll be a hell of a lot happier (gayer?) if we come out proud and thankful about it!

Which means we can rethink those three options I gave us and 1) attend that Thanksgiving dinner with our accepting, homophilic family and go one step further, seeking their activism in advocating for gay civil rights; 2) go to that dinner with our censuring, homophobic family but loudly, proudly stand by our sexual orientation with thanksgiving (no, make that "thanksgaying"); or 3) invite other single gay people over to share some turkey, commiserate in our uncoupled status or maybe even cruise one another and find something to really be thankful for.

Whichever option you choose, please don't be a turkey and spend your Thanksgiving holiday alone or ashamed; be an eagle and fly with your fellow birds-of-a-feather -- fly high and proud. But if you must be an ostrich, be a gay one, strutting about with your fabulous feather boa, telling the world, "Thank God I'm Gay!!!"



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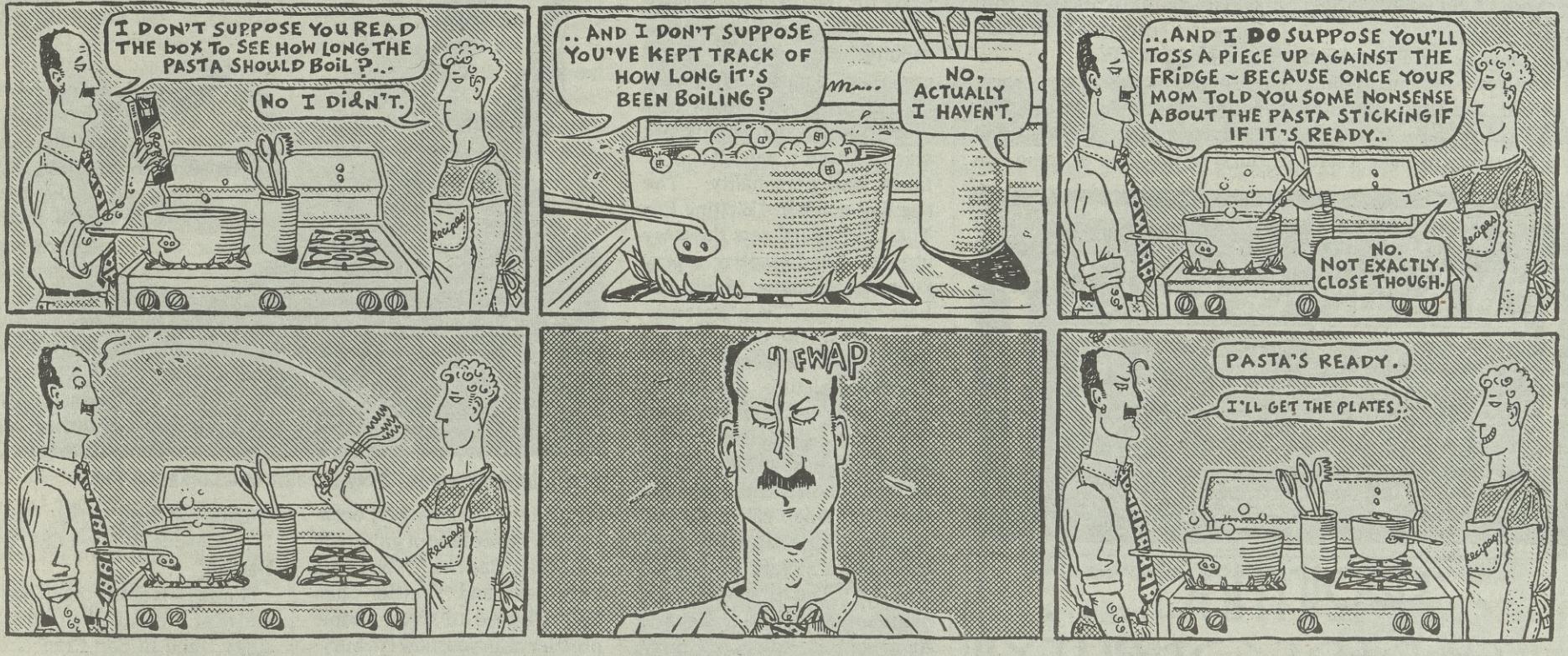
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Theater

"Dirty Dreams Of A Clean-Cut Kid" Comes To Town

by Chris Narloch

Anyone who's ever wondered about their HIV-status should bolt to the box office of the Sierra 2 Art Center to see "Dirty Dreams Of A Clean-Cut Kid," a bittersweet musical about waiting for the lab report.

It premieres in Sacramento for three nights only, November 18-20 as a benefit for CARES (The Center For AIDS Research, Education & Services).

A musical revue about AIDS is a weird and wonderful thing to behold, and the authors of "Dirty Dreams" have seized every opportunity to make a seri-

ous subject both moving and entertaining. With Ron Johnson as its sole performer, this one-man production gets the passionate point across that, until there is a cure, love is the best "remedy" for HIV.

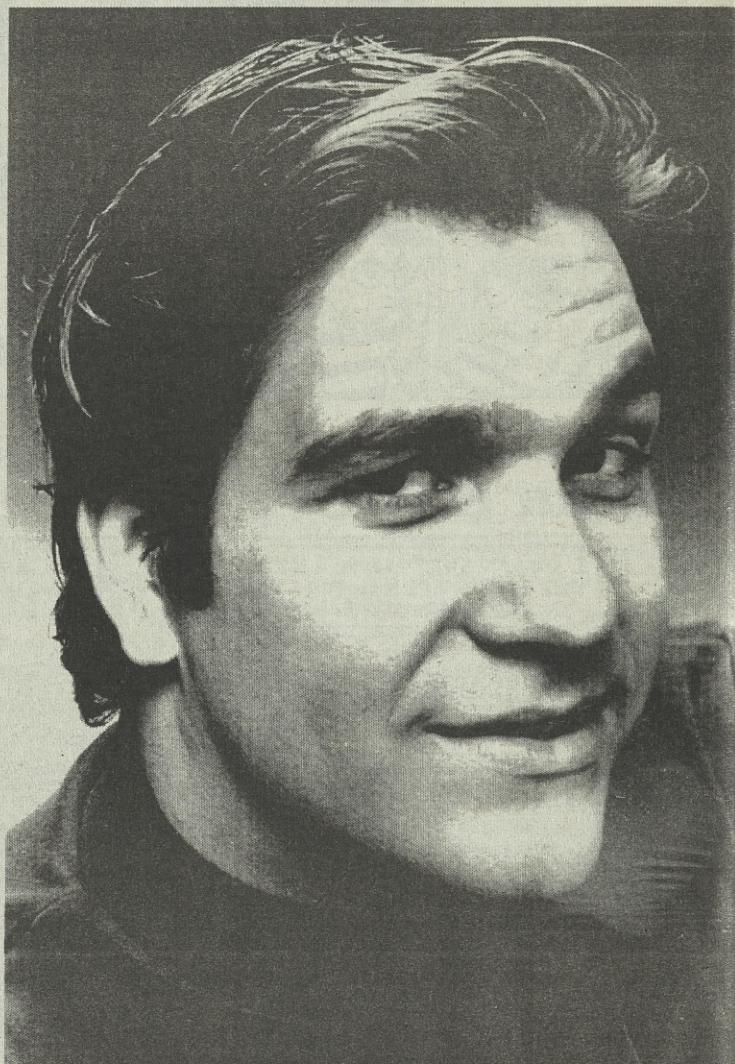
Johnson stars as an earnest young gay man whose life flashes before his eyes (and ours) to the tune of some two

dozen songs, whose topics range from adolescent lust to adult fear and longing. The actor pours his heart into every number so that by the end of the brisk 70-minute show, we feel we have experienced the hopes and dreams and memories of a whole generation of gay men who only want to live "to see another June in San Francisco" (in the words of one of "Dreams" best songs).

The action takes place in June, 1987 in the waiting room of a community health center in San Francisco as the character waits for the results of an HIV test -- a clever device which requires only minimal stagecraft: taped music, a few well-chosen props and some very effective lighting underscore star Johnson's abundance of talent and personality. The opening number, "Waiting For The Lab Report" sets the story in motion and leads to a very funny monologue about our hero's lust for T.V.'s "Batman," Adam West (the bat pole took on a whole new meaning.)

The structure, alternating songs with reminiscences, serves the show well and allows Johnson to display his gifts for emoting, vocally and especially verbally. When called a sissy, the character's natural, defiant reply is, "Hey, that's Mr. Faggot to you!" The title tune is a standout as Johnson sings a litany of his childhood "dirty dreams" while cavorting underneath "Star Wars" sheets (Tarzan movies, it seems, were a particular catalyst for masturbation.)

Thankfully, creators Paul Katz and Henry Mach are not



Ron Johnson stars in "Dirty Dreams of a Clean-Cut Kid."

afraid to show a darker, occasionally bitter, side of gay life in songs like "Bad Sex," "The Thing I Did Best" and "Prettier Than You" ("I used to screw people prettier than you, now I'm burying people I used to screw.") But the emphasis is on humor so Johnson dons a black vest for a charming little ditty like "S.F. Leather Daddy 2001." He even drops his pants and ties himself up with rope for a chal-

lenging bondage routine called "You Love It (When I Call You Daddy)."

The show is really about hope, and near the end, when our star sings "June In San Francisco," he delivers a beautiful ode to the pleasures of the City by the Bay and a powerful plea to God to "let me live to see another June in San Francisco." You'll have to visit Sierra 2 to find out whether the character is positive or negative, but the message is undeniably optimistic. The final number, "Those Who Remain," sung after our hero gets his results, is literally a showstopper, and its words echoed in my mind all the way home: "Those who remain have to live the best they can/Let there be love for those who remain."

"Dirty Dreams" premiered in 1991 at Josie's Cabaret in San Francisco where I caught it recently in a return engagement, still a sell-out on its final evening. It has played to acclaim and awards around the country, and this current production will tour the state after stopping in Sacramento.

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Movies

Everybody Gets Burned In "Frankenstein"

by Chris Narloch

The title may be "Mary Shelley's Frankenstein" but actor/director Kenneth Branagh has nobody to blame but himself for this godawful dud. It's probably the worst major movie of the year.

With Branagh himself playing the mad doctor, Helena Bonham Carter as the love interest and Robert DeNiro in the role of the Creature, the film would seem to have success built in. And it does get off to a good start with a moving explanation for Dr. Frankenstein's obsession with reanimation -- tragically, he sees his own mother die during childbirth. But then things begin to go wrong as the director rushes us through the obligatory scientific gobbledegook to get us to DeNiro's big entrance.

The laboratory set is a marvel, as is much of the film's look, but the "birth" sequence with DeNiro and Branagh wrestling near-naked in a pool of lubricant is so homoerotic it's laughable. So how's DeNiro, anyway? Don't ask. He takes one of the greatest roles in movie monster history and reduces it to a Freddie Kruger clone, stalking Dr. Frankenstein as if this were "Cape Fear II." The pathetic script even gives him the ability to speak and reason, which blows any chance for the type of sympathy we had for Boris Karloff's great childlike depiction in the classic black-and-white version.

Poor Helena Bonham Carter has it even worse in the horrible part of the neglected wife -- she gets her heart ripped out of her chest, only to be reanimated and die another even more grisly death. What was

Branagh thinking in the scene where the doctor dances with his formerly beautiful lover, now hideously disfigured? (With her hair burnt off and large, open sores on her head, Carter looks more like a cancer victim than the bride of Frankenstein.) The ending is unbelievably bad.

If only Branagh had spent more time with the writers beefing up the script and less time beefing up his body for several shirtless scenes. But then he's always been a show-off, whether borrowing from Hitchcock for his hokey thriller "Dead Again" or souping up Shakespeare as in his sloppy, goofy version of "Much Ado About Nothing."

"Mary Shelley's Frankenstein" is shocking all right. It's scary to think that a classically trained performer like Kenneth Branagh could make such a crass, heartless movie lacking even a shred of mystery or suspense. When he burst on the scene with "Henry V" five years ago, Mr. Emma Thompson was prematurely touted as the Brit-

ish Orson Welles. In its desperation to be a big, commercial hit, his lousy new movie reveals that the emperor, as they say, has no clothes.

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THE LATEST ISSUE 25

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Music

Madonna Gets Personal with Her New Album

by Bill Peterson

After 1992's hyped-up OD of "Erotica" and the "Sex" book, it seemed that the irrepressible Lady Ciccone had at last used up the world's admiration for her and was destined for the big fall naysayers had been predicting for nearly a decade.

But, with the release of "Bedtime Stories," Madonna further strengthens her portfolio and once again shows her staying power.

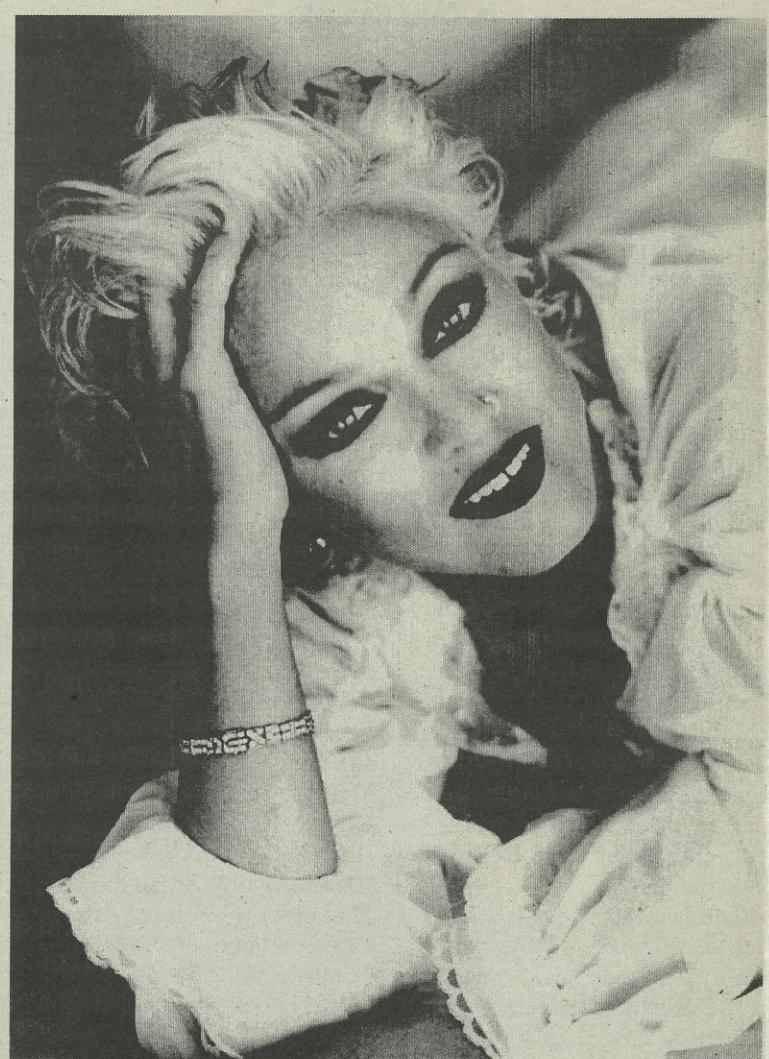
Since 1989's "Like a Prayer," Madonna's work has become more personal, and compelling than her earlier, "Like a Virgin"-era, chirpy, throwaway days. With 1990's "Justify My Love" and "Rescue Me" from her hits collection, her palette

became murkier, both musically and lyrically, a mood that "Erotica" embellished upon, with added darkness and cynicism. Emerging from two years of criticism ranging from "Sex," and the paint-job on her Hollywood Hills home, to her pointlessly salty shenanigans on Letterman, Madonna's "Bedtime Stories" tells the tale of a woman who's been humbled, and even humanized, both by public scru-

tiny and personal relations.

Opening with "Survival," she proclaims "Here's my story/No risk, no glory/A little up and down and/All around/It's all about survival" to the accompaniment of a big-bass hip-hop tune. Speaking of survival, her producing collaborators include some of contemporary r&b's most successful --Dallas Austin (Joi, Boyz II Men), Dave Hall (Mariah Carey, Mary K. Blige), Babyface (Toni Braxton, etc.) as well as Bjork's producer (the pair wrote the title song on the disc), Nellee Hooper. With their aid, the sound on "Bedtime Stories" is tailor-made for radio airplay. Basically mid-tempo throughout, the tracks mix her trademark dance floor froth ("Don't Stop"), with insightful lyrics, which show her steady growth as songwriter. Obviously humbled by the fierce media coverage of her '92 opuses, the Madonna on display in the lyrics of "Bedtime Stories" is more personal, and more human than in the past. While she spits venom at her critics on "Human Nature" -- "You punished me for telling you my fantasies/I'm breaking all the rules I didn't make" -- Madonna's vulnerability is displayed throughout--especially on two stand-out ballads that sound like old favorites on the first listen.

In "Love Tried To Welcome Me," Madonna sings, "I know



Madonna's new release, "Bedtime Stories", is a hit.

how to laugh/But I don't know happiness/And I must confess/Instead of spring--it's always winter." While the closing "Take a Bow" shows a surprising world-weariness.

With solid tunes, "Bedtime Stories" succeeds on its own terms as further testament to Madonna's staying power and evolving maturity.

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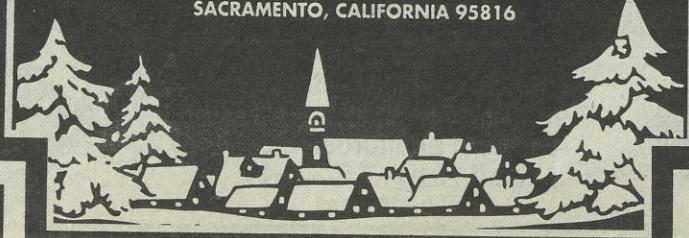
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Carleen Anderson: "True Spirit"

The voice of Britain's Young Disciples, Anderson flexes her soul-gospel muscle on her solo debut. With her sumptuous voice centered among the clear production, Anderson's voice soars and sears through the material, highlighted by "Nervous Breakdown," and the delicate "Secrets."

Robbie Robertson & The Red Road Ensemble: "Music for the Native Americans"

An accompaniment to the TBS documentary on the Native American history, this disc



Carleen Anderson.

mixes Indian songs and chants with contemporary drum/guitar backings to mesmerizing effect. The liner notes embellish the feeling of each tune

with historical notes. The London Suede: "Dog Man Star"

The sly homo-erotic, yet staunchly heterosexual posing of frontman Brett Anderson, as well as his versatile vocal skills prove more interesting than the feedback-filled modern rock that brings to mind 70's era David Bowie.

Digable Planets: "Blowout Comb"

Basically a retread of the trio's hugely successful debut, Blowout Comb's material is disappointing. While the jazzy vibe is still there, the spark that made the debut so exciting is missing.

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NINETY

Meaningful Moments With Disappear Fear

by Joyce Beazian

Disappear Fear recently performed to a standing-room only crowd at The Palms Playhouse in Davis. The show was alternately touching and energizing, sprinkled with moments of true magic.

Sisters Cindy and Sonia (Rutstein) Frank began the band in 1987, and have recently released their third album. The group is known for their wide cross section of fans, both straight and gay, young and old. Sonia and Cindy granted *the latest ISSUE* an interview before their show at the Palms.

The sisters provide a good balance of energies, both onstage and off. Cindy is the grounded one, Sonia the visionary. "It's funny," Cindy muses, "because we are frequently perceived as opposite of how we actually are upon first meeting."

And what are some of their differences?

"Sonia usually doesn't speak unless she has something really important to say. She's quiet that way. It's not necessarily (that she's so) "heavy," a lot of times she is never knows what she is going to say." She laughs. "It makes for a very interesting evening for me and for the rest of the band!"

The Rutstein sisters, who at one point used the name "Frank" professionally in order to protect their family from potential "cranks," exhibit a mutual respect and admiration for each other as artists as well as human beings.

Says Cindy, "Sonia has enormous vision. She's always five steps ahead of where we actually are. And sometimes she'll be frustrated because she doesn't understand why life doesn't look like she sees it." She continues, "I really want to care what I'm singing about. The music really has to have some sort of "humanness" to it: some passion, something meaningful." She pauses, "I don't think that I would work with anybody other than my sister."

"Why?" I ask.

"I think she's the best songwriter around. She says what I would say if I could write songs."

What about all the press Disappear Fear gets about being so political?

"We don't mean to be political (per se). It just happens to be that (Sonia) being gay is a problem for some people. It's really not a problem for us, and when Sonia writes songs about her life experience, such as falling in love, or whether somebody's giving her a hard time about falling in love -- like threatening her life about falling in love, she sings about it. And yes, it comes out as political."

Sonia says that writing music is "as much a part of my life as breathing is... I love what I'm doing and I feel very lucky that I'm able to do it."

One quest of the band appears to be dispelling fear and bigotry of all kinds, including racism and homophobia. Sonia describes her process of coming out. "I fell in love and shared it with people around me. First my parents, and then more people. I was in a band that wanted me to be in the

closet, and didn't want me to sing (lesbian/gay) songs like that. Then I just decided I really wanted to be true to my music, and that's around the time that Cindy joined the band. And so I came out, and it was a good thing. It's really been my source of power, to be truthful. And that would be true whether I was gay or straight."

Sonia spoke in concert about a book by Alice Walker which likens those who repress other's expressions of love as "slaveholders," and those who suppress speaking of their love as "slaves". "I like to fall in love and be in love real loud!" she expressed amid cheers from the audience.

Sonia spoke of a show they did the previous week in Birmingham, Alabama, at a college there. "We were told we had to change the words of some songs, some songs were banned completely, and I wasn't allowed to wear a T-shirt that had any kind of a slogan on it. I wasn't allowed to wear my freedom rings, and I wasn't allowed to refer to anything homosexual in any of the fear we could express ourselves in. I was thinking, God, this audience needs to hear this more than



Disappear Fear's Sonya Rutstein and Cindy Frank.

anybody! We went on stage and we played for about an hour, and it got to a point to where it was just unbearable. So, short of starting a riot, we ended the show rather abruptly."

The Disappear Fear sisters, who hail from Baltimore, are about to become a bi-coastal

band. Sister Sonia plans to move to northern California. Does this mean we might have more opportunities to see this dynamic duo and their band live and in concert?

Their large contingent of loyal, local fans certainly hope so!

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SMITH

continued from page 9

called out, "If you want some pictures of attractive people, the rest of us are over here!"

Gorman: How would you introduce yourself to Sacramento?

Smith: I think one of the best ways to describe me is as I was described by one of my colleagues: "the Mr. Goodwrench of AIDS Service Agencies. I've had phenomenal success at turning around troubled agencies that everyone had given up on, that had major public relations problems, major financial problems, and had lost sight of the vision and become agency-driven instead of client-driven."

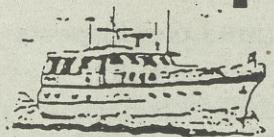
Gorman: So how old were you when you came out?

Smith: I must have been nineteen.

Gorman: How did your family react?

Smith: I grew up in a very conservative Church of Christ home. We made Baptists look liberal. It was very traumatic. My three brothers were really cool about it. They accepted it. But my parents were very intolerant.

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erant at first. It came to a point where I was out on my own. They realized they had lost me in their lives, and that didn't work for them either. They saw that their intolerance was not going to change me. They sought me out, and we've worked at repairing that relationship ever since.

Gorman: In your work since then, what is the one thing you are most proud of?

Smith: At the time that it happened, everyone in the Oklahoma legislature thought it was a miracle that I was able to get mandatory AIDS education passed for the public schools. They just laughed when I got someone to introduce it. I got it passed. It seems small by today's standards and considering where we've all come, but back in '87 in Oklahoma, that was phenomenal. I'm very proud of what I was able to accomplish in New Mexico, turning an agency around, bringing it from a \$385,000 agency to a \$1 million agency.

Gorman: As far as the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, what sorts of goals have you set for what you want to see happen here?

Smith: My immediate goal was to assess the problems. They became apparent rather quickly. We've got a couple of departments that needed some

real attention, that had sub-standard performance. I've hired a dynamite new Education Director who I think is going to take that department and soar with it. I'm really excited about that. I've hired a new contractor in client services. She's an L.C.S.W., and she's just dynamite also. That department

Sometimes with minorities, and especially us, if you go into a setting and you're trying to get services or you're applying for a job, and you don't get treated like you want to be treated, you walk away and assume that maybe it was about homophobia, when maybe it was just

really do some better outreach into the communities of color. We can't just specialize in one group. We have to meet the needs of everyone.

Gorman: What do you think about Governor Wilson's recent veto of needle exchange?

Smith: I think it's very unfortunate that he would bow to pressure from the conservative right in an election year at the expense of saving lives. I think it's criminal. It's a highly unfortunate decision. People will die because of it.

Gorman: What can be done about the new apathy among young gays about safe sex?

Smith: We used to think that all we had to do was educate about how AIDS is spread: AIDS 101. We've done that. Gay men know how it's transmitted. It's far past time to take AIDS prevention to the next level. We need to examine why people continue behaviors that they know are dangerous. Is it acting out related to low self esteem because of homophobia and oppression? Is it only behavior that occurs after the use of some mood altering substance? We have to examine and address these things. We have to look at ways of building life skills.

Unless we look at the bigger societal ills that have us in the mess we're in, we're not going to effectively challenge the AIDS crisis.

Gorman: So how do you get away from the pressure?

Smith: I'm very single and very social. I love to dance. I love to go two-stepping. I love to play softball, and horseback riding. I love rodeos. I love movies. I love politics; I sometimes escape the pressures of AIDS by getting into the pressures of politics.

Gorman: Any final word?

Smith: I can't turn this agency around by myself. I'm here as team leader, as cheerleader, as supervisor, but if the gay community wants SAF to become the agency that it needs, I need their help. I need their input. I need their financial support. I need their volunteer work. I need their vocal support to help us correct the public image. They need to give me the opportunity to win them back, and trust me, at least for the short term, until they see the fruits of my labors. I need them to trust that I want to turn this thing around, and together we will.

There's always some potential for some real subtle homophobia here... but there's no blatant homophobia here.

is on probation from a funding source. The next thing is hiring the new Development Director, which I will do today. That position is very important because I inherited a debt here. There is a sizable debt for this fiscal year. We've gotta get cracking on that. We have to diversify our funding base. The government funds we receive should be only 50% or so of the budget. That means raising the other sources quite a bit. But the hiring is all done, and for me it now becomes a maintenance thing, evaluating to see if I hired the right people, make sure they keep on working their magic.

Gorman: So you've been here how long?

Smith: Five weeks. Just over a month.

Gorman: Other goals?

Smith: I've come across a perception in the gay and lesbian community that there's at least distance, if not subtle homophobia, that has strained relationships with the foundation and the community. There's always some potential for some real subtle homophobia here, but I think it's the kind of homophobia that the person who does it has no concept of, and they'd never do it if they had some consciousness raising. There's no blatant homophobia here.

about bad management, or maybe it was about an employee losing sight of the mission, or maybe it was about an employee being overworked or burned out.

I think that mediocre management culminated in behavior that was perceived (and I totally understand, I've been there too) as homophobia. It's up to me to correct and rebuild and heal that relationship with the gay and lesbian community as supporters, people we care about and people who need to know what we're doing and need to hear what we are doing with their money and their commitment and their support.

Gorman: Do you have any plans for ways to increase the representation of all of the affected communities in the fight against AIDS?

Smith: When I say that we want to beef up our relationship with the gay and lesbian community or we want to beef up the attention we give to minorities or women, some folks who have been getting attention perceive that to be taking away from them. I never believe in a finite pie concept. When we expand something we just bring other groups up to the same level as groups that we've included in the past. We need to

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Sacramento/Russian River Personals

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Sacramento DESSERT INCLUDED: We're a couple in mid/late 20's looking for 18-30 clean cut in good shape, we're the same looking for others for dinner and other fun- #10760

Sacramento THE BIGGER THE LETTER: Dave, 27 5'7 150 brn/blu arian, clean shaven subm type looking for masc hairy, aggressive over 30 well endowed a + #10790

Sacramento BREAKFAST IN BED? Michael, 35 GWM 5'10 170 brn/blu in meeting BM 30-50 for some morning fun in the downtown area- ench expert give me a call- #11068

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Sacramento IF IT FEELS GOOD, I'LL DO It: Johnathan, 27 6'1 160 swimmers brd, dk/mustache, like a little older, uth aggressive in bed, like to please- me a call- #11365

Sacramento PAUL, bi male looking for other males red 6'1 180, give me a call- #11516

Sacramento GAM 5'8, going to UC Davis looking for WM 18-25, 5'9+ brd/blue, dining movies, going to the each- give me a call- #11598

Sacramento A LITTLE CREAM IN OUR COFFEE: WM glk end'd top looking for an aggr bottom, for early ay session, downtown area- #11702

Sacramento WE'LL BE TOGETHER BI AND BI: Paul Bi male looking for another bi male to make love and have good times together #11737

Sacramento NED, just turned 21, like to live out my fantasies, like to date and have a man in his mid 40's as a boyfriend, like to get into some hot stuff, I'm btrn 5'11 155, med brn hair, very nice, like to hear from you- #11747

Sacramento LOOKING FOR MR RED: Paul bi male looking for other bi males for fun times, 6'1 180, red hair, give me a call - #11516

Sacramento MATT, 6' blnd/blu, 180 good shape, lkg to meet dk hairy male older, 30+ big muscly guy, give me a call back if UR int- #12236

Sacramento A LITTLE SAUSAGE ON THE SIDE? Brent, married bi male 6'2 215 working out looking for some guys to get together on the side enjoy being a top can be vers- #12319

Sacramento NEW MEAT, 6', 224 BM looking for hot hungry men! big real men- #12372

Sacramento BIWM 6'4 200 looking for guys to hang out with, no flakes- #12388

Chico 2 + 1 = 3 + FUN: Two WM seeking gdkg under 30 sacto area, 6'2 195 brn/grn, other is 5'7 brn/blu, must very open and we seek the same- #12340

916 Area code My name is Rodney, and i live in a very small town, 30 5'11, 16 green/dk, 30 mi north of Sacto, like to meet other gay men to talk to- give me a call- #12672

Roseville TINY BUBBLES.....My partner and I are looking for gdkg guys in the Roseville are to get together sit in the hot tub- give us a call #12651

Sacramento GM 34, blu eyes, very tired of bars, looking for a no nonsense person- give me a call- #12656

Sacramento JIM, 33 dk hair/blu must, vers, looking for 24-33, outdoors, quiet eves at home- #19324

Sacramento OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS: MICHAEL, 35, WM, It brn/blu, looking for men of color, 30-45, med build, give me a call, open to find something to do and someone to do it with- #9370

Sacramento GBM seeking GWM GLM, 18-29, call if interested- #9466

Sacramento BI-PARTISAN: Steve mature educated prof'l, Bl, politically active, int in someone fin sound likes to have fun, bike riding, hiking, jogging, wants to develop a good rel- #9530

Sacramento PUMP IT UP!!! GWM 18, brn/blu 5'7 130, small build, like to meet someone into weightlifting to pose and do a heavy workout while I watch, then get a massage- looking for blnd body builders a + #9541

Mt. Shasta MIKE, 20 6'1 blnd/blu well built, love to hear from ya, - #9584

Citrus Heights A FLYING TRAPEZE?

Dennis, Daring, hope you are, adventurous a plus- outdoors even better, 28 brn/green 6'2 gdkg, give me a call, we'll talk about the important things later- #9927

Reno DURAFLAME:

New to Reno tp, 6' 180 beard looking for tp or btm, in front of a fireplace #9819

Sacramento I DREAM OF

Jamie, 39, TV like to find a man, int in a perm rel, if you are the man of my dreams, let me know- #9865

Susanville HEADS OR TAILS? healthy (+) tp, 6' 180, looking for vers action, #9910

Sacramento I'VE GOT A BIG, BIG, LOVE... Michael, 29, lkg for someone in the area to get together with, give me a call, I'm built- #10443

Sacramento CAN SOMEONE HELP ME WITH MY DILEMMA? Garold, curious, bi WM 30 5'11,195, divorced, blnd/hazel, looking 4 other curious guys, sports, movies, rafting, fun, fit-semi pro-ball-can show me the other side of life, or even the middle- #10115

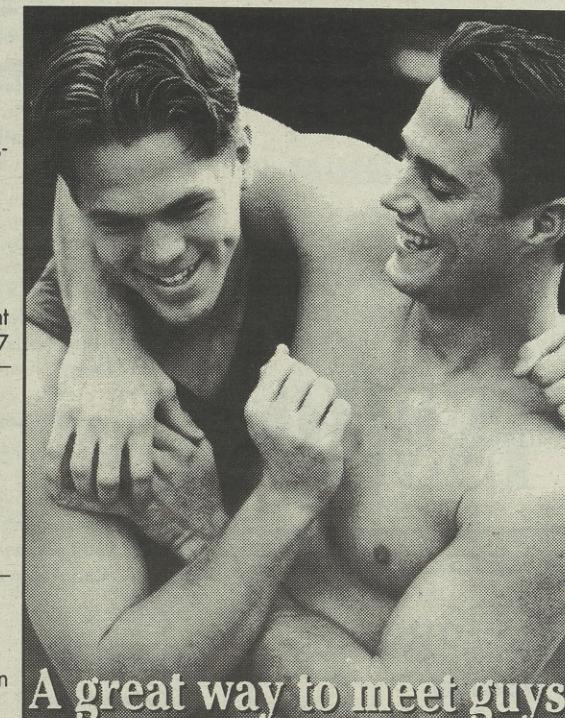
Sacramento CHRISTOPHER 21 5'5 135 blk/dk, musc, want to have fun, looking for other fun guys- give me a call- #10114

Sacramento TRILINGUAL: Italian, 30 good looking , just moved here- looking for a slender 20-32 y/o to share hobbies and good times, swimming, sailing, windsurfing, skiing, camping, biking and foreign languages- #10208

Sacramento WM 21 Bi curious, musc, like to meet bl/gay single WM for intimate encounters, must be gdkg- #10303

Sacramento ATTN: REDHEADS: Adam 32, brn/brn med bld, love to read, movies, dancing, music, like all kinds of men especially redheads! #10478

Sacramento GWM 23, 5'9, 145, brn/brn seeks someone 25-35 height weight proportionate for good times- #4952



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relationships- like campfires, hiking, music, pizza and beer, looking for a person to do things with and to love- #5506

Sacramento SITCOMS: Kenny, TV, TS like all kinds of situation, like to meet others like me, and bi-males- like to meet in my area- #6653

Citrus Heights AND GIVE ME TEN: Chris- want some more responses, dk hair must, 25 vergdkg like to get down and take it - call me- #6699

Vacaville, THE HILLS ARE ALIVE: Edwin 5'3 102 , asian guy like singing, theatre, discos partying, mountain climbing, a lot more, like someone to talk to and be there ISO WM 25-35 blu/green, musc, height weight proportionate, sincere, romantic- #6792

Sacramento BILL 5'11, 170, brn/blu must hairy, tan work out regularly - looking to get together with some guys in the area- #7571

Sacramento LIKE TO PEEL BANANAS: 26, 5'1 brn/blk, vers, like 18-35, like kissing and hugging, affectionate kinda guy, - #7913

Chico ROBERTO, GHM, 6' 24, arts, musician, open minded, if int just give me a call- #8270

Newcastle JOHN, Man looking for lover, 53, latins, blacks a plus, #8395

408 Area Code L'EGGS BENEDICT: 45 Married male athletic and a beard-looking for another W married male single male 25-35 to fulfill a fantasy-to wear panty hose while speaking french- #3675

Fresno RON 20 like to meet guys and have fun give me a call! #2275

Stockton PRISONERS OF LOVE: Dennis -looking for big tall very strong black or hisp men ex-cons ok- I will obey and respect you, love you ,will take care of you #2537

Palo Alto LIFE-LESS IN THE BURBS- 26 WM 6'2 175 tall runners build nice guy anyone like me down here on the peninsula? if fun funny interested down to earth educ, like outdoors modern rock - call- #1967

Sacramento GOOD OLE COUNTRY BOY- 26 5'9 blnd/ blu horseback riding, country music, line dancing, cuddling,, romantic-you name it i'd like it! #2122

Sacramento BE MY GARANIMAL: GWM 32 outgoing bike riding, animals, cozy nights- not looking for Mr. perfect just someone who likes to have a great time, go places, camp, being close to someone, I'm non-drinker. #2126

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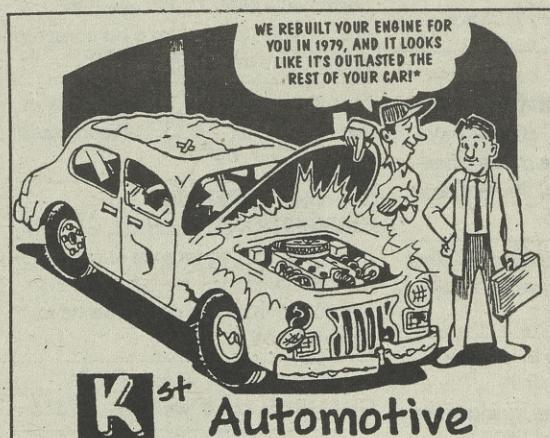
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Dr. Cameron Yee, 6407 Riverside Blvd. Sacramento. (916) 395-0673.

Organizations

Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, (916) 442-0185.

Positive Gourmet, food services for people with HIV and AIDS. P.O. Box 160845, Sacramento, 95816. (916) 851-9850.

Sacramento Area Career Women's Network (SACWN) (916) 451-8034.

Pets & Fish

Animal Housecall Service, Dr. Nancy Weagly, Veterinarian. (916) 456-0967.

Capitol Aquarium, 29th & T Street, Sacramento. (916) 452-5556.

Printing

Sacramento Quick Print, 2612 J Street, Sacramento. (916) 442-5615.

Real Estate

Coldwell Banker, Toby West. (916) 427-1261.

Comeaux Realty, Debbie Comeaux broker. (916) 351-1983.

Vicki Pfingst, Pfingst Realty, Sacramento, (916) 362-1166.

Yvonne L. Rodriguez, Century 21 - Valley Oak Realty, (916) 685-2100, (916) 855-2930 v/m.

Bill Spencer, Prudential-California Realty, (916) 453-1500, 399-9733(h).

Restaurants

Cornerstone, 2330 J Street, Sacramento. (916) 441-0948.

Ernesto's Mexican Food, 1901 16th Street, Sacramento. (916) 441-5850.

Hamburger Mary's, 16th and J Streets. (916) 441-4340.

Masako's, 2115 J Street, Suite 101, Sacramento. (916) 448-1717.

Pescado's, 2801 P Street, Sacramento. (916) 452-7237.

Taxes

Gail Gibson, full business services, tax preparation, bookkeeping. (916) 683-2221.

Marsha Orritt, Consolidated Investment Services, Inc. (916) 965-5437 or 672-2439.

Whitney and Killick, 2321 Lloyd Lane, Sacramento. (916) 486-8985.

Travel

Papillon Travel, specializing in international travel. Will Dunnigan-Shread. (916) 451-1944.

Patterson Travel, Shannon Davis agent. 1107 21st Street, Sacramento. (916) 440-9112.

Sports Leisure Travel, 9527-A Folsom Blvd. Sacramento. (916) 361-2051.

Window

Visions, Mobile Showroom available by appointment. (916) 451-6757.

Russian River

Bars

Rainbow Cattle Company, 16220 Main Street, Guerneville. (707) 869-0206.

Camping Ring Canyon Camp Ground, 16747 Armstrong Woods Road, Guerneville. (707) 869-2746.

Massage

Rosemarie's, Therapeutic Massage, (707) 869-2983.

Resorts

Fife's, 16467 River Road, Guerneville. 1-800-7-FIFES-1.

Russian River Resort, 16390 Fourth Street, Guerneville. (707) 869-0691.

The Willows, 15905 River Road, Guerneville. (800) 953-2828.

Restaurants

The Annex Restaurant, 14880 River Road, Guerneville. (707) 869-1800.

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